



Fall 1998

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Dordt College

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VOICE

DORDT COLLEGE

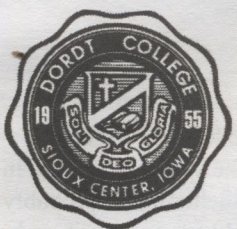
FALL 1998
VOLUME 44 NUMBER 1

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Heather Bajema was one of many students who spent their summer working in an internship related to their future career.



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Enrollment sets record for second year in a row.

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Schaap and Dordt troupe tour with "CRC Family Album."

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Jansen is first woman board chair.



Summer work puts students in the thick of things

Sally Jongsma

Some students choose to participate in an internship because their program requires it, some do it to test a career choice.

Others are looking for good résumé material. But almost all students who take time to do an internship find it gives their studies more relevance once they return to campus.

This summer many students devoted their summer to an internship, sometimes giving up a paying job or taking a lower salary to do so. Heather Bajema, a senior psychology major from Sioux Center, says she learned things this summer that she would not have learned in the classroom. The experience also confirmed her career choice.

Bajema was one of two interns accepted into the Acute Adult Program of the psychiatric ward at McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Even though the pay was low the responsibility was not. The ward, which is locked at all times, serves mostly involuntary patients, many of whom are homicidal or suicidal. Each room has only a desk and a bed. Patients have only the clothes on their backs in the room, and they are not allowed to wear shoes, lest they hurt themselves or others with them. Even their bathrooms are locked at all times.

Bajema worked with patients struggling with manic depression, personality disorders, paranoia and schizophrenia, and bi-polar

disorders. Many were homeless, she said. They had binged on alcohol or drugs, and were picked up and brought into the acute care unit. The average stay for most was four days.

During those four days, patients were required to attend a variety of group sessions led by staff, including Bajema. Music therapy sessions helped workers determine something about patients' emotional state based on the kinds of songs picked. Art therapy sessions helped staff understand what they were thinking. Recreation therapy helped patients burn off energy. Goals groups forced them to confront why they were there and what they were willing to work toward.

Bajema worked alongside the regular staff, participating in group sessions as well as giving electric shock treatments and doing day-to-day testing on the patients. She also attended treatment conferences with the doctors and psychiatrists, giving observations about individual patients that were crucial to their treatment.

Although many Dordt students participate in internships every year, increasing numbers of students are looking for good opportunities to learn and serve. If you are interested in learning more about having a Dordt intern in your business or institution, please contact Erik Hoekstra for more information at 712-722-6288.

Bajema learned a great deal about daily care in an acute care psychiatric ward, but she also learned some intangibles that may not have affected treatment but did help her deal more effectively with individual people.

"I found that people with bi-polar disorder often have a relationship to a stuffed animal," she says, pointing to their real need for some security in their lives.

"I found I liked working with people with clinical disorders," she says. "I learned to feel comfortable dealing one-on-one even during nasty, violent times. I expected to get sucked under and take it all home with me, but found I was able to stand back a bit and do what had to be done."

The summer made Bajema more eager than ever to pursue a Ph.D. in psychology. She plans to begin applying to graduate schools within the next couple of months.

Jeanine Kopaska, a senior environmental studies major, spent her summer with the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation as one of seven interns hired out of thirty applicants. Kopaska, who worked last summer with the Nature Conservancy on prairie restoration, was looking for an internship that would tie more closely to educational issues related to the environment.

"For years I've wanted to work as a lobbyist but didn't know exactly what for," she says. Although she entered college as a political science major, an environmental studies course provided the focus she needed.

continued on page two

Summer internships complement students' course work

(continued from page 1)

"I thoroughly enjoyed the course and became passionate about caring for the creation. I think we need to be more conscientious about how we live and use resources. We need to evaluate what are needs and what are wants."

Kopaska tries to live her commitment by walking to church and other nearby places regularly. She and her roommates often take their own dishes and cups to functions that use disposable products. And she is a member of Shamar, the student-run environmental club on campus.

"Actions speak loudly," she says. "Often if you take the initiative, others will follow."

This summer Kopaska participated in several community meetings on a variety of environmental projects ranging from putting in bike trails and green areas to zoning, land use, and inner-city construction.

"There are so many issues that have a great impact on the environment," she says. Her experience this summer helped her learn how a non-profit organization runs. She gained experience in fund raising, grant writing, and public relations. Kopaska says she believes she became a better writer because she had a better sense of who her audience was and what they might be willing to read.

"I found the experience challenging. You don't see things happen in a textbook way, but you see the relevance of what you've studied."

She also learned that people with very different motivations can work together to bring change.

"I came from a college where we are continually prodded to think about every aspect of an issue and where our mandate in God's rich



Jeanine Kopaska developed her passion for environmental stewardship in a course at Dordt.

creation is clear. Others don't work out of those values. They may just want to save the world for themselves and their children. But we can still work together because in the end we are restoring God's good creation."

Kopaska says her internship opened up many possibilities for her future although she is not sure exactly which direction she will go—some combination of speaking, missions, law, public policy. But definitely graduate school to get there.

Dan Howerzyl, a business major who graduated last May, remained in the Netherlands following his second semester on the Netherlandic Studies Program to do an international business internship with Vermeer Manufacturing's European affiliate, Vermeer International. Howerzyl spent six weeks focusing on market research in an international business context.

Set up through business professor Erik Hoekstra, the coordinator of Dordt's National

Internship Program for business students, Howerzyl worked with both a tulip farmer who markets internationally and Vermeer's Netherlands office.

At Vermeer Howerzyl worked on three projects: a cost comparison between Vermeer's brush chipper and a European manufactured model, a survey of fifty-two companies that used Vermeer's brush chipper to gather information for dealers, and a research project comparing the total volume of sales of the brush chipper by European dealers with that of United States dealers.

"Basically I was assigned projects that would help the dealers know what they were doing in sales and what they could do," says Howerzyl.

Howerzyl found that when comparing sales to number of people in the country and the GDP, sales in the United States were significantly higher. The Vermeer office in the Netherlands could use this information in their contacts with their European dealers.

Through his internship, Howerzyl says, he not only gained valuable experience and knowledge, but also confidence. He was grateful for the preparation he'd had in his courses and especially the computer background he had. And his six weeks gave him a good look at the inner workings of an international business.

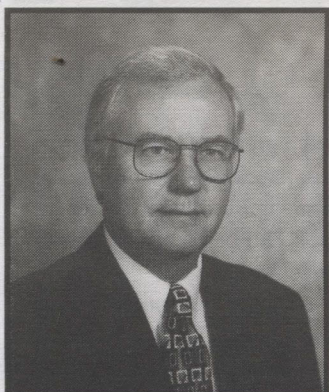
As important was the cross cultural exposure he gained.

"I found that the United States isn't the only place or even the best place to live," he says. "There are many good things we can learn from other people and other countries." Working in a room with four other people who spoke four languages every day also made him feel like he should know more than just English. He understood for the first time, in an experiential way, why it might have been important for him to learn other languages, he says.

Recently returned from the Netherlands, Dan is submitting résumés to a variety of businesses. Whether he ever goes into international business or not, his experience will always be a benefit.

I found the experience very challenging. You don't see things happen in a textbook way, but you see the relevance of what you've studied.

From the president



Dr. Carl E. Zylstra

A Moral Academy

It's not every day that the *New York Times* mentions both Monica Lewinsky and Dordt College in the same article. Not that we mind being cited in the *New York Times*. However, it seems quite a stretch for a large Eastern newspaper to tie a small Christian college to the scandals swirling around the President of the United States.

What the writer of the article tried to do was this. He argued that revulsion among Christians over the debasement of national culture (as evidenced in the Clinton-Lewinsky matter) has led to a surge in student applications to Christian colleges. In making its case, the newspaper discussed recent growth in several Christian colleges, sprinkling the article with numerous quotes and comments by officials at Dordt College, among others.

Well, I'm not sure about the accuracy of the article. It's hard to draw a direct connection between a national scandal and particular increases in enrollment. In fact, talking with representatives of other Christian colleges who were also mentioned in the article, I found that almost every one of us had told the interviewer from the *New York Times* that we thought it would be pretty difficult to demonstrate such a connection on our campuses.

At the same time, it ought to be clear from the article that, increasingly, Christian colleges really are considered counter-cultural oddities in the present era. Dordt College was

singled out for mention in the *New York Times* article simply because we ask faculty and students to abide by standards of Christian behavior and then back up that expectation with sanctions, including dismissal from the institution when necessary. Now, most of us probably consider that sort of policy to be just plain Christian common sense. Yet, to the writer from a *New York Times* newspaper, the fact that we even have Christian standards of behavior—with a backbone—seems terribly quaint and unusual, almost as if Garrison Keillor's mythical Lake Wobegon had started a college.

Nevertheless, the newspaper writer does correctly observe that more and more people are recognizing that the dominant culture in North America now boldly denies and even ridicules such standards. And because they are pushed aside by the prevailing culture, people who take Christian faith seriously are, in fact, starting to look more carefully at Christian colleges and universities—at least at those colleges that are willing to stand with them against the reigning relativism and neo-paganism of our present era.

I realize that sometimes Christian colleges are a little embarrassed to be known for standing in contrast to the prevalent culture. I, too, winced over the title given to the article: "Into the Sheltering Arms of Evangelical Colleges." After all, it is the goal of Dordt

College to prepare students for vigorous engagement against the spirits of the age in every area of life. "Sheltering" is probably the last word we would use to describe what we do!

At the same time, as I said in my convocation address this year, a Christian college really ought not to be afraid to stake its claim as a moral academy. Christian colleges that demand high standards of scholarship also must expect the entire campus—students, faculty, and staff alike—to live up to similarly high standards of personal and community behavior. Reforming our minds by the standards of God's Word also will include shaping moral behavior by exactly those same standards.

To my mind, such colleges are not just anachronistic remnants of a long-ago, romanticized past, as many of today's opinion makers would have us think. Rather, such colleges are expressions of faithful Christian academic life as it should be lived in every age. It certainly is a shame that it takes a national scandal to force our cultural elites to take notice of us. And we may well run the risk of being labeled out-of-touch when they finally do take note. Nevertheless, I really am convinced that Dordt College will fulfill its academic task only as, by God's grace, we really do become a truly moral academy, governed in every respect by the Word of God.

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Covenant Hall, on the
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houses mainly sophomores
and juniors.

Covenant Hall opens its doors at the last moment

The final weeks of the summer were anxious ones for Dordt Student Services personnel. With 228 students scheduled to arrive on August 24 and move into Covenant Hall, pressure mounted as the day drew closer and the building looked far from ready. Requests for faculty and staff volunteers to help clean the building went out over e-mail the last week. People walking through the building one week before registration were skeptical it would be ready on time.

But it was. At 8:37 a.m. on August 24 the fire marshal approved having students move in.

Campus was already filling up. All breathed a sigh of relief. As students eagerly carried their belongings into the newest Dordt residence, few had any idea of the bustle that had preceded their arrival.

Covenant Hall is the largest of Dordt's residences, housing up to 240 students, sophomores to seniors. Located on the far east side of campus, the attractive three-story building looks down the length of the campus.

According to Curtis Taylor, vice president for student services, Covenant has approximately twice the square feet as North Hall, but only houses forty more students. The new hall has significantly more public space, including a

kitchenette, conference room, and lounge on each floor and a classroom, large storage areas, a recreation room, a television room, laundry facilities for Covenant and East Campus apartments, and a twenty-two station computer lab in the basement. In addition, the building is air conditioned, making it attractive for housing groups during the summer.

Residents have been enthusiastic. Sophomore resident assistant Laurie Hoogeveen from Lincoln, Nebraska, says, "Everyone I have talked to loves living in Covenant Hall. We're blessed to have so many resources right in our building—a computer room, large lobby areas on every floor, kitchenettes on every floor, and the basement is not even finished yet. When that happens, Covenant will be the place to be."

But Covenant wasn't the only building project going on this summer. With climbing enrollments, a number of buildings are bursting at the seams. In addition, Dordt's regular upkeep and renovation schedule keeps the maintenance staff busy all summer.

This summer, staff renovated another of the six East Campus apartment buildings, replacing cabinets, carpeting, and bathroom ceilings and fixtures. North Hall, a men's residence, and the Commons received a major

electrical upgrade, and North Hall received new showers. The engineering wing of the science building received a major renovation. Staff divided a large classroom in the main building into two average size ones, created more office space in the computer services area, and installed a catwalk above the "clouds" and a new sound system in the chapel. And work was begun on moving the art department from its current location to the classroom building. Two new classrooms will be used this year, with the department moving over next year after other renovations are completed and temporarily occupied space is vacated.

With approximately 700,000 square feet of building space to keep in good working order, maintenance and renovation is a major budget item and requires a great deal of time. Vice President for Business Affairs Bernard De Wit meets with the physical plant staff on a regular basis to review the condition of buildings and plan summer projects. As a result the college has very little deferred maintenance.

"This is possible because of a dedicated physical plant staff. The summer months are busy ones for that staff. Vacation time is hard to find. Their work is greatly appreciated," says De Wit.

Moes and Petersen join the Pew Younger Scholars Program

For three weeks this summer, senior Heidi Petersen and Dr. Paul Moes had the opportunity to work with neuropsychologist Malcolm Jeeves through the Pew Younger Scholars Program.

The annual program, which took place May 26-June 16 at Notre Dame University, is funded by the Pew Charitable Trust and provides undergraduate upperclassmen with the opportunity to experience graduate-level courses in the areas of philosophy, theology, literature, history, economics, and psychology.

"The goal," says Petersen, "is to promote Christian scholarship and to prepare students for the graduate school experience." Moes, who also participated in the conference four years ago, assisted Jeeves with the psychology seminar. Jeeves, author of *Psychology through the Eyes of Faith*, has focused for the last twenty-five years on studying the corpus callosum, the part of the brain that connects the right and left halves. His focus on the physiological aspect of psychology was reflected in the seminar activities, which included an afternoon lab during which stu-

dents performed various tests on other program participants related to the corpus callosum. The mornings involved seminar-style instruction with some instructor lectures as well as student responses to various articles; and, by the end of the program, each student had to prepare a final paper or project related to his or her seminar.

"I went there to learn about a totally different side of psychology than I'd experienced before," says Petersen, who, until that point, had focused mostly on the theoretical aspect of psychology.

"Heidi came with the least background [in neuropsychology] and she did very well despite those limitations," said Moes. "Dordt College prepared her well."

Moes participated in the program not only to benefit the students involved, but also to achieve some personal goals. In addition to working with Jeeves, other incentives for Moes included "having the opportunity to learn more intensely myself and to teach highly motivated students on a more advanced level. It's a chance to focus on what you love with a small group of

students." Compared to the program he participated in four years ago, Moes said that "generally the students were better prepared for this seminar." He and Jeeves were better prepared as well, having conducted the seminar once already. "We could spend more time reflecting with the students," said Moes.

The chance for discussion was one thing Petersen enjoyed, both the discussions with Jeeves and the interaction with other students. "We had a lot of good talks about what was going on in different seminars. Because there were so many Christian students from a variety of backgrounds, it gave me the opportunity to be exposed to many different ideas. [I was] confronted with a whole mosaic of Christian perspectives."

The program challenged Petersen, not only to bring her Christianity into secular institutions, but also to present her Reformed worldview to other Christians who weren't very familiar with the Reformed perspective.

Overall, both Petersen and Moes found the program informative and challenging. "It really prepared me for graduate school outside the Reformed tradition," said Petersen.

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Dordt fall enrollment breaks record again

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With Dordt's application increases garnering a mention in the *New York Times*, the college's fall enrollment was expected to be attention-getting as well. Early expectations were not disappointing, as total enrollment jumped by close to nine percent and freshman enrollment gains topped fifteen percent.

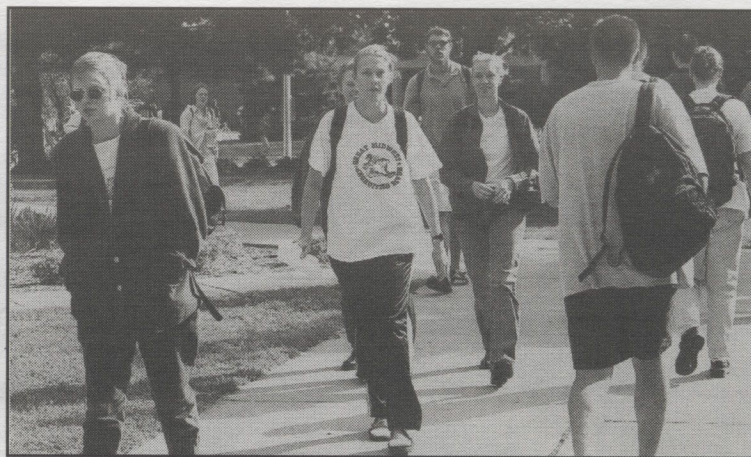
Both total enrollment, which stands at 1420, and this year's enrollment increase, 119 students, are records. This is the third year in a row that Dordt has enrolled record numbers, the eighth in a row of enrollment increases.

While enrollment of students from regional high schools increased this year, the college also saw increases in the numbers of international students, with Canadian enrollment climbing by around twenty percent. Dordt is among the most geographically diverse of Iowa colleges, with more than fifty percent of students coming from more than 500 miles away.

Although the jump in freshman numbers accounted for much of this year's enrollment increase, college officials say that the more significant factor in Dordt's growth trend has

been retention—the number of students who return from year to year. In six of the last ten years, overall enrollment increases have been greater than the increases in the freshman class size.

“Figures compiled by the *U.S. News* show that Dordt is in the top ten percent of comparable colleges in the Midwest in terms of retention and graduation rates,” says Jim De Young, director of public relations. “And, of course, retention is a



primary indicator of student satisfaction, so retention leads to further enrollment increases as satisfied customers spread the word about Dordt College.”

New graduate education program accreditation opens door to high school teachers too

Accreditation for Dordt's graduate education program has been expanded from a master of education in elementary education to a master of education. The new status allows high school teachers to enroll in Dordt's program and allows Dordt to add other programs under the M.Ed. degree.

The new designation is more than just paper work, says Dr. Jack Fennema, director of graduate education. Many of the courses taught are flexible enough to allow the student to focus on a particular area or discipline within a broader context. Curriculum projects as well as research projects lend themselves to this easily. The change already has attracted some high school teachers to the program, says Fennema.

Another development that has broadened both the program's student enrollment and its ability to serve the community is an agreement with the local area education agency to offer staff development credit for all Dordt graduate courses. Under this agreement, these credits can

be applied toward state licensure renewal, but students pay a lower rate than if they enter a graduate program. Thirteen people earned staff development credits this summer through this new arrangement.

A third innovation in the program is the addition of two-day mini courses in a variety of areas. These can be applied to the graduate requirements or taken as staff development credits for license renewal. This summer two were offered: Sport Education and Teaching the Bible to Adolescents.

Fennema is pleased with the results of these new changes and welcomed seven new students into the program this summer. He also is pleased with the contribution graduates of the program are making in their schools. Two are working on curriculum development at their respective schools and a third has decided to enter a doctoral program. Another expects to be appointed principal next year.

Distinguished Scholars come from across the country

Each year, the admissions office scholarship committee meets to choose the recipients of Dordt's academic awards. The top awards go to those named Distinguished Scholars.

The committee chooses a select number of incoming freshmen primarily on the basis of academic standing, which includes grade point average, class rank and test scores. The students chosen each receive a scholarship of \$5,000.

This year's award winners:

Nicole Bruxvoort from New Sharon, Iowa, graduated from Pella Christian High School. Nicole is a pre-pharmacy major who hopes to eventually own her own local pharmacy. She is currently involved in the Community Outreach Program.

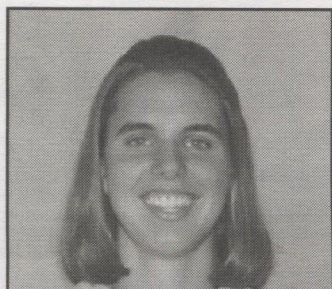
Paul De Jong graduated from Illiana Christian High School, which is near his hometown of Beecher, Illinois. Paul is undecided in his major and hopes to be involved in Student Forum.

Kenneth Elgersma is from Whitewater, Wisconsin, where he attended Sheboygan County Christian High School. Currently a biology major, Kenneth is also considering pursuing a second degree in environmental studies. Outside of class, Kenneth plays oboe in the band.

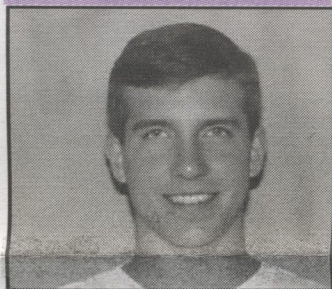
Jeremy Plantinga, an engineering major from Duncan, British Columbia, attended Duncan Christian Secondary School. At Dordt, he is a member of Shamar, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), and the ski and snowboard club.

April Te Grootenhuis is a psychology major from Orange City, Iowa, where she attended Unity Christian High School. Her activities at Dordt include the Community Outreach Program, Evangelism Club, and Covenant Groups, and she hopes to get involved in theater. After Dordt, April plans to pursue a career as a family counselor.

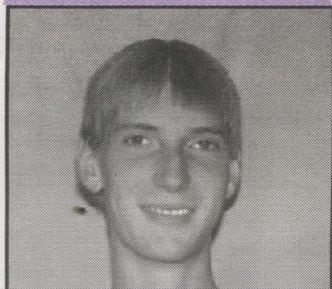
Jaron Vande Hoef is from Rock Valley, Iowa, and went to the Netherlands Reformed Christian School. After graduating from Dordt with a degree in mechanical engineering, Jaron hopes to attend graduate school to focus on civil engineering. Jaron expects to be involved in intramural basketball, band, and Student Forum.



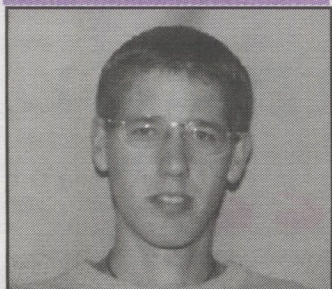
Nicole Bruxvoort



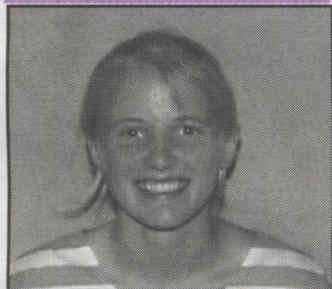
Paul De Jong



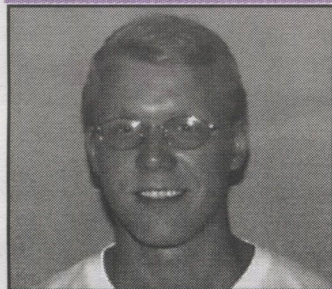
Kenneth Elgersma



Jeremy Plantinga



April Te Grootenhuis



Jaron Vande Hoef

Campus capsules

A little relief for Canadians

Canadian students have been hard hit by the current world economic climate. With an exchange rate down to nearly sixty cents on the U.S. dollar, these students need to come up with half again as much money as their American roommates and friends. For many years Dordt has offered Canadian students an exchange rate grant to help offset the difference in the value of our dollars. The aim is to absorb nearly half of the increase in cost to make it possible for them to attend, says Director of Financial Aid Michael Epema.

“Dordt College is committed to strengthening the bi-national nature of our college,” says President Carl Zylstra. “Four of our board of trustees members, including two executive committee members, are from Canada. We're pleased that our Canadian enrollment has increased by twenty percent over last year.”

Although the current exchange rate grant was set and could not be changed for first semester, Dordt officials met the first week of the semester to adjust the rate for second semester. The grant will rise from \$1100 to \$1300, which absorbs once again about half of the increased costs.

Freshmen bring special scholarships with them

Sarah Den Boer of Abbotsford, British Columbia, was this year's first-place winner of the Hugh and Eve Meeter Calvinism Award for High School Students. Dordt sophomore Aaron Roukema was the second-place winner last year. Awarded annually to two students who attend one of the Christian Reformed

church-related colleges, the scholarship offers a first-prize award of \$2500 and a second-place award of \$1250.

Winners for the Meeter Scholarship are selected by means of an eight- to twelve-page essay, which this year focused on John Calvin's view of the creation and its relevance to current environmental issues. Winners' criteria include thoroughness of research using primary and secondary sources, coherence of argument, quality of writing, and relationship to the contemporary situation.

Erika Van Den Hul was one of five Iowa students honored at the State Capitol Building as winner of a 1998 Iowa Arts Council Scholarship for the Arts. The \$1000 award will be applied to Van Den Hul's first year at Dordt. She plans to major in piano and organ, but also comes as an accomplished violinist and vocalist. The Arts Council scholarships purport to “recognize an individual's art quality and depth.” It “delves into the soul versus the grade,” says the chair of the scholarship committee.

Education program reapproved

The Dordt College teacher education department was notified this summer that its teacher education program was reapproved through June 2003. The Iowa State Board of Education gave approval following an on-site review and evaluation that began last spring.

Actually the process began a year and a half ago when Dr. George Faber began compiling the institutional report required by the state. The report includes such things as an overview of the institution, the scope of the

Math students give good showing on Putnam Exam

Each year Dordt math majors participate in the National Putnam Exam.

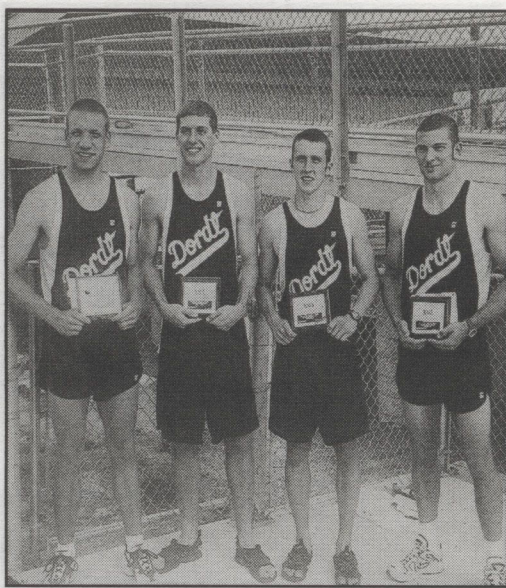
Dordt's team scored a respectable fourteen points this year, although, faculty advisor Rick Faber says, if he had known his students' best scores ahead of time Dordt would have earned twenty-four points.

The exam consists of twelve problems, each of which are worth ten points. Each participating school must choose a team of three whose points are added together to get the team score. More students can take the test, but officially their scores do not count. Senior Bonnie Runia scored twelve and senior Steve Bonnema scored ten. With the best team, Dordt would have placed 133rd, one ahead of Iowa State and ahead of a number of other large universities.

According to Faber, over 2500 of the top college math students in the United States and Canada took the Putnam. Runia did better than 77 percent and Bonnema better than 62 percent of those students.

"It is very difficult to get any points on a Putnam Exam," says Faber. "Zero points out of 120 was by far the most common score on this test." A student must first understand what the problem is asking and then have the right insights into how to solve it. Often those don't come right away. Finally the solution needs to be written out clearly, justifying the work.

Preparing for the Putnam is a difficult process, says Faber, but in doing so students learn what they know and don't know. It also forces them to combine everything they know to solve a problem.



Men's 4x800 relay team named All-American

For the first time in school history Dordt College has an All-American relay team. Dordt's 4x800 team finished fifth in the nation at the national meet held in Tulsa, Oklahoma, last May. The relay had a time of 7:45.30, setting a new school record. The top six teams in the event earn All-American status.

Dordt's new All-Americans are Jason De Weerd (senior, Rock Valley, Iowa), Matt Van Essen (freshman, Sioux Center, Iowa), Jeff Summerhays (sophomore, Brantford, Ontario), and Ron Kingma (freshman, De Motte, Indiana).

programs offered, the standards governing the institution, its organization, its students and faculty, its resources and facilities, and its curriculum and evaluation process.

Program approval means that Iowa automatically grants any Dordt graduate an Iowa teaching license, says Faber. This license can then be used to obtain a license from another state. The evaluators concluded their letter of approval saying, "Congratulations to everyone on your campus for their fine job of maintaining a quality program at Dordt College."

Three new scholarships announced

Three new scholarships will be available to Dordt students next year.

The Jill Vander Zee Memorial Scholarship was established this summer in memory of Jill Vander Zee, daughter of Dordt biology professor Delmar Vander Zee ('66) and his wife Lois (Dorhout, '66). Jill, who would have been a freshman at Dordt this fall, loved music and art, so the \$600 scholarship in her honor will alternate annually between students majoring in music and in art.

Applicants must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0.

The Steemsma Music Scholarship is also available to students majoring in music. Applicants must have a 3.0 minimum grade point average and submit an essay. Selection is based on academic record, leadership qualities, and Christian commitment. The award for next year will be \$600.

The Joe's Redi Mix, Inc. Scholarship is open to students majoring in agriculture or agribusiness. Applicants must be full-time

Dordt students with a minimum grade point average of 3.0. The award for next year will also be \$600.

For more information on these and other scholarships contact Barbara Schaap in the Office of Scholarships and Grants.

Dordt College named a U.S. News "Best Value"

Dordt College comes in at number seven on the U.S. News twelfth annual listing of the ten "best values" among Midwestern liberal arts colleges. The listing appeared in the magazine's *America's Best Colleges* issue and guidebook on August 24 and is available on U.S. News Online, www.usnews.com.

The group of which Dordt is part, Midwestern liberal arts colleges, includes 135 institutions in twelve states. Nebraska's Doane College comes in at the top spot of the top ten best-value colleges. Dordt and Wisconsin Lutheran College tie for the highest percentage of students receiving need-based grants—eighty-five percent.

U.S. News measures value by relating a school's quality ranking with the net cost to a student who receives an average level of financial aid. According to U.S. News, "the best values are found among colleges that are above average academically," so for the best value ranking they consider only those regional schools that finished in the top quarter in the magazine's quality rankings.

U.S. News ranks best-value institutions in four categories: national liberal arts colleges, national universities, regional liberal arts colleges, and regional universities.

Five join faculty

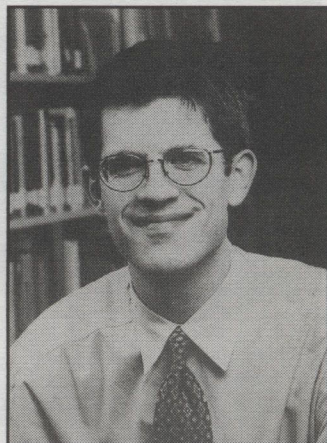
Anthony Dykema-Vander Ark joins the English department this fall, replacing James Schaap, who is on a one-year leave of absence. This summer, Vander Ark successfully defended his dissertation for his Ph.D. in English from Michigan State University. Prior to his arrival at Dordt, Vander Ark taught literature and writing courses at both Michigan State and Ohio universities. He enjoys African-American and ethnic American literature and is teaching introductory courses in grammar, composition, and literature.

Jude Fernando joins the business administration department as an assistant professor of economics. A native of Sri Lanka, Fernando has broad interests in economics, environmental studies, politics, and women's studies. He earned a B.A. from the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, and his M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. Fernando's dissertation study focused on the political economy of non-governmental organizations in Sri-Lanka and Bangladesh. He is currently studying the impact of small-scale economic development programs on minority women in inner cities in the United States. Fernando recently completed work as a consultant to the World Bank in Washington, D.C., where he addressed child labor issues. His papers have been presented at more than a dozen conferences, and some are published in various academic journals including *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*. He will teach macro economics, Third-World development, and labor economics courses.

Christopher Rehn also adds his expertise to the business administration department. Rehn earned a J.D. from Cornell Law School and an M.B.A. from Eastern College. He has also done a year of graduate work at the University of Heidelberg, Germany. Rehn has been an associate for different law firms in Pennsylvania prior to his arrival at Dordt. He also helped develop the Open Door Youth Center, which deals with teen outreach and is connected with SALT ministries in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. He has lived in several inner-city communities and worked with the homeless and Cambodian refugee children. He will teach courses in management, business law, and marketing.

The Dordt history department welcomes Keith Sewell to its staff. Sewell comes from Montrose, Victoria, Australia, and holds a Ph.D. in philosophy of history from Deakin University, Australia, where he also taught courses in European imperialism. His papers have been published and presented at public lectures and conferences in Australia and Korea. Sewell is a member of several organizations including the Australian Historical Association, the Evangelical History Association, and the London Historical Association. He is teaching courses in Western civilization and nineteenth and twentieth century European history.

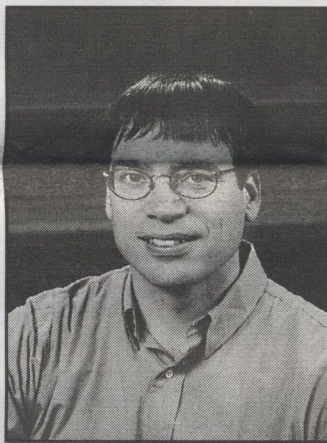
Tram Sparks will assist the Dordt music department for a year as Professor Ben Kornelis takes a leave of absence for further study. Sparks earned a full-tuition scholarship to Yale University and is currently a doctoral candidate. She is a member of the American Choral Directors Association, the College Music Society, and the Conductors Guild. She most recently conducted the Yale Recital Chorus, Repertory Chorus, and Chapel Choir. An accomplished pianist, Sparks served as an accompanist for choral groups at Temple University, a piano soloist in several master classes, and as a recitalist and chamber musician. Sparks will be directing the Concert Choir, Chorale, and Kantorei, and will also teach a course in music history.



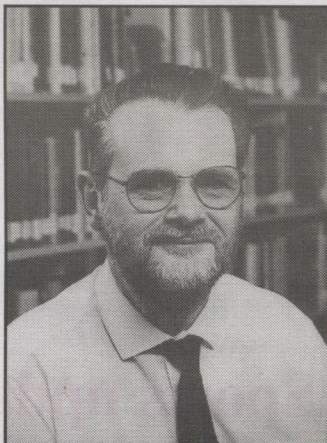
Anthony Dykema-Vander Ark



Jude Fernando



Christopher Rehn



Keith Sewell



Tram Sparks



Theater pros' summer helps fall production

Sally Jongsma

“I was paid to get an education.”

Putting on *Macbeth* is always a daunting task, especially in the amount of time available to a college director. Dordt's fall production of Shakespeare's classic had an advantage, however. Director Simon du Toit and designer John Hofland already had worked with another production of the play for months before they started rehearsing for it here. Hofland was the designer for the Kentucky Shakespeare Festival's production of *Macbeth* this summer, and du Toit was an actor in the company.

Du Toit's and Hofland's professional work not only helped them learn the play better than they ordinarily have time for before a production, it also helped them see what worked well and what could be improved. And it saved them a great deal of time at the beginning of a busy semester.

"I could take the best of my design for Kentucky, change things that didn't work as well as they could have, and add ideas that weren't possible in the spaces we used in Kentucky," says Hofland. Du Toit adds, "Having performed the play thirty times this summer I knew what I wanted the play to be."

Both du Toit and Hofland used the basic approach and design of the production they worked with this summer, capitalizing on what they learned. Following the lead of Kentucky director Curt Toftland, for whom Hofland has designed sets before, du Toit and

Hofland emphasized the original Celtic setting of *Macbeth* to bring out the key conflicts in the play between good and evil, Christians and pagans.

Hofland uses a stonehenge setting as a background for the action, surrounding the center area with large stones filled with icons and drawings.

"Much of Celtic iconography is about community entertainment. Losing community and regaining it is what the tragedy of *Macbeth* is all about."

One of the main changes made from this summer to this fall was to center the action around a table or altar in the middle of the stage.

"Centering the action around this large stone allows us to make more symbolic use of it in other parts of the play," says du Toit. Hofland talks about the circle within a circle which creates a kind of world within a world on stage.

A second significant change is the addition of a balcony to the set. The balcony makes some scenes more powerful, says du Toit. Because of the Kentucky Festival's need to adapt to several performance spaces, a balcony was not possible in Kentucky. But it added an important element at Dordt.

A third change is the treatment of the witches. In contrast to Toftland, who used commedia dell'arte performers, du Toit's witches are truly evil, thereby emphasizing once again the contrast between good and

Professors John Hofland and Simon du Toit were not the only people working with the Kentucky Shakespeare's production of *Macbeth* this summer. Senior James Addink left for Louisville shortly after school ended in May to begin work on the set. He was one of three people responsible for getting the set ready for its June opening.

"Working with a professional theater is so much different than with a college production," says Addink. "Things get done so much faster." Lines are learned in a fraction of the time, and the set goes up more quickly because everyone is focusing all of their attention on the production. And because it was a full-time commitment, Addink got more involved in the entire production.

"At Dordt I'm not always aware of all the parts because someone is assigned to each area, and you don't have time to worry about the others." This summer he had a better chance to see the variety of jobs that are possible in theater. Working with professionals was also a memorable learning experience.

Addink isn't sure yet about his career plans—maybe lighting, maybe film—but he does know that the summer was exciting and that theater is definitely an option. He'll work at the Festival again next summer.

He seconds what one of his coworkers said this summer: "Theater is one of the best jobs in the world. You get to play while working."

evil. Such an approach, he believes, will point out the clear religious struggle in the play.

"Evil is a real force in the universe," says du Toit. "I want it to be clear that we are dealing with something evil, with a real religious struggle."

The benefits of Hofland's and du Toit's summer work goes far beyond the actual effect it had on the production of *Macbeth*, however.

"I was paid to get an education," says Hofland, who worked closely with others in the company and in the area in designing his set.

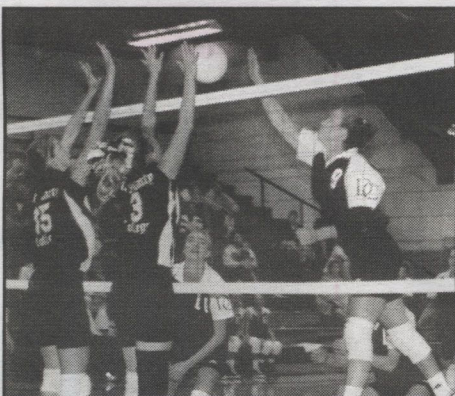
"A new way of working happens when ideas of two people intersect," he adds. The college and especially theater students benefit from the professional growth that results.

Du Toit, who hasn't acted professionally in ten years, says the summer was invaluable for reminding him of details he has forgotten but, more importantly, for allowing him to learn from another director again.

"I gained an appreciation for the sense of energy that Toftland captures in actors' bodies and voices. His love of Shakespeare encourages actors not to fear the poetry, helping it come alive."

"Every time you look at a text you discover new things about it," says du Toit. That happened this summer and continued to happen this fall as he took the director's chair.

Sports updates



Volleyball

After a 22-14 season in 1997, the Lady Defenders have raced out to a 19-1 start to the season and are currently ranked 19th in the country by the NAIA. Dordt's lone loss is to the number one team in the country, Columbia of Missouri.

The Dordt women are ranked fourth in the Great Plains Region and are currently 3-0 in South Dakota-Iowa Conference action.

Soccer

Women

After a slow start to the season, the Dordt College women's soccer team has started to pick up some wins. Currently at 7-4 for the season, the Lady Defenders are

playing well under third-year head coach Jeanie Elgersma.

Men

The Dordt men have stormed out to a 8-2 record to start the season. The Dordt men, under the direction of sixth-year head coach Bill Elgersma, have picked up some nice wins over Briar Cliff (Iowa), Park (Missouri), and Central (Iowa).

Cross Country

The Dordt Cross Country teams have competed in three meets this season under head coach Ross Goheen.

So far this season Dordt's women have not been defeated by any college in the NAIA.

Both the men and the women are looking to be in full stride to compete

for the South Dakota-Iowa Conference championship on November 7 in Spearfish, South Dakota.

Golf

After a NAIA national qualifying season in 1997, the Dordt men's golf team entered this fall's season with optimism for a back-to-back conference championship in the SDIC.

The men competed in fourteen meets along with the conference meet in Madison, South Dakota, on October 1 and 2. Dordt's return bid to nationals came up short this season as Dakota State garnered conference honors and will represent the conference at the NAIA meet.

Dordt alums take to the road for CRC

Gena Koning

In 1995, Dordt College English professor and author Dr. James C. Schaap ('70) was asked by the Historical Committee of the Christian Reformed Church (CRC) to "breathe new life" into an unfinished research project on the history of the CRC—a project that began in the early 1980s. Schaap agreed to write a book based on the research, with a focus on Old Testament history.

"It seemed to me," says Schaap, "that what had often brought the Israelites together in their wanderings was a sense of history." He says the Exodus story allowed the Israelites to be united around a central story that gave them "both an identity and a purpose."

In the same way, according to Schaap, a written story of the CRC might be a tool the denomination can use to "renew within us a sense of identity and purpose."

Through thorough study of the history project and after hours of research and writing on his own, Schaap has completed the book, *Our Family Album: The Unfinished Story of the Christian Reformed Church*, (CRC Publications, ©1998), which will be available in late November.

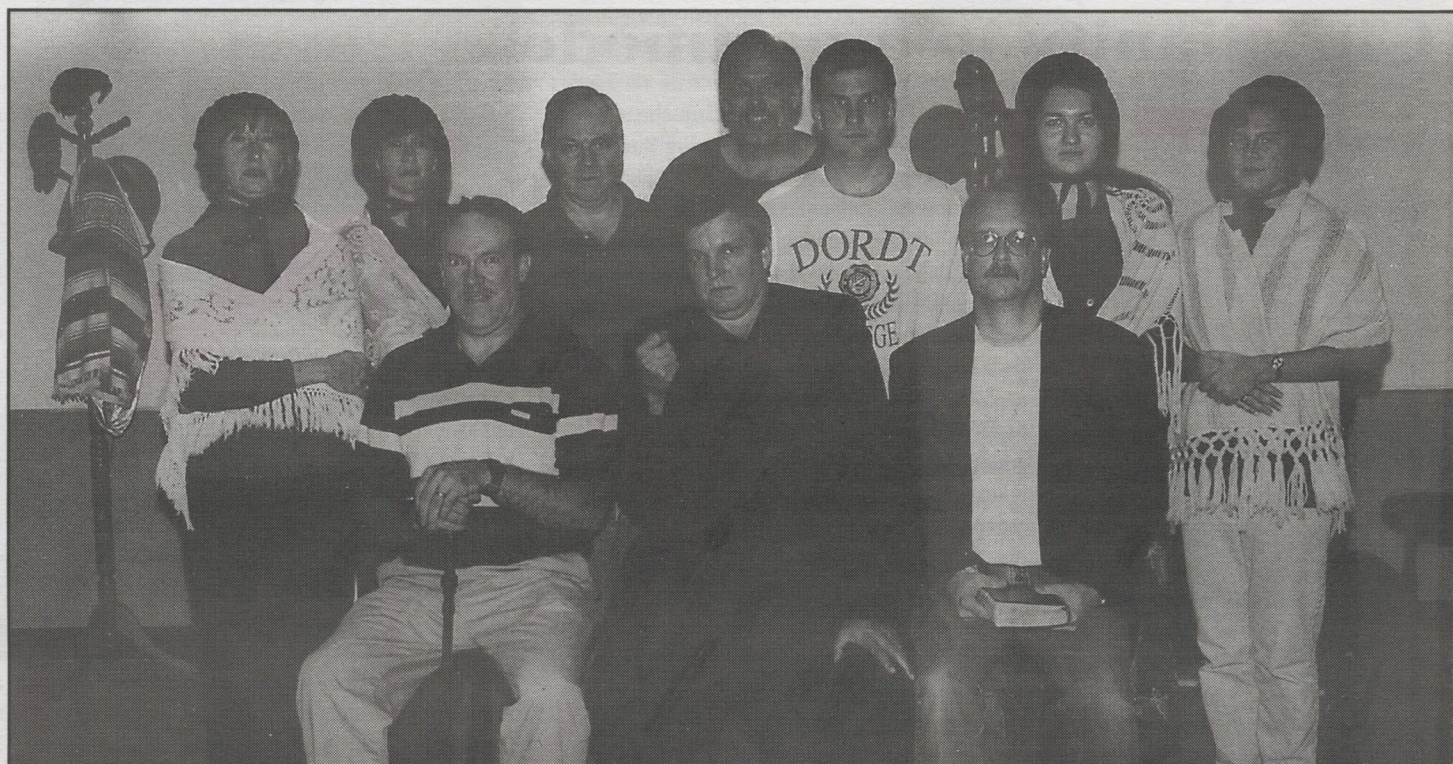
In conversations with CRC publications and the Free to Serve committee, Schaap also agreed to write a drama of the church's history to coincide with the book's release. In fact, the 90-minute production, "Our Family Album: Free to Serve," opened over the Reformation Day weekend with shows in Pella and Sioux Center, Iowa. Additional performances are scheduled in the Chicago area, West Michigan, New England, and Ontario, Canada.

The company is comprised of twelve actors and musicians from northwest Iowa and southwest Minnesota, each of whom have their own unique history in the CRC and with Dordt College. In fact, all but one of the company has attended or graduated from Dordt. Author James C. Schaap performs the narrator's role in the production. Cathy (Branderhorst) Feenstra ('95) says the production helps younger people "have a deeper understanding of the struggles that the CRC went through to get where it is today." Feenstra adds, "It ['Our Family Album'] can be seen as a 'tying' point between the older and younger generations."

Dave Bloemendaal ('68) says even as a senior member in the group he has learned many things about the church's history from this production. Bloemendaal says, "We can learn from the good points and the mistakes," of the CRC's past and present. "The biggest thing for me," says Bloemendaal, "is being involved in something to promote the denomination. . . to be out there, to be CRC."

"Our Family Album: Free to Serve," has made the past come alive for cast member and Dordt public relations director Jim De Young ('81), who has made some connections with his past. With a tip from his mother, he was able to find a book that his great-great grandfather wrote when he was the fourth pastor of the CRC's founding church in Graafschaap, Michigan. He later discovered a photo of his ancestor in a book in the Dordt library. De Young says, "Being able to find a personal connection to the events of the play has really helped it come alive for me."

"Our Family Album" combines a 12-foot video screen backdrop, featuring a mixture of still and moving images, with acting and singing on stage to create a compelling drama about the CRC from its very beginning to the present.



John Schuurman ('68, front left) is joined by Don Draayer ('72), Jim De Young ('81), Jeri Schelhaas ('67) (back left), Deb Vogel ('81), Dave Bloemendaal ('68), Jim Schaap ('70), Matt Kortman ('96), Gena Koning ('98) and Cathy Feenstra ('95) in the performance of "Our Family Album." Not pictured are Lois Vander Zee ('66), who serves the actors/singers as accompanist, and Karen DeMol, music professor, who acts as music director.

"Like most churches with a western European beginning, our early origins are primarily white. We're also mainly Dutch, and our history reflects that. However, in the last couple of decades we've been successful in including a much larger circle," says director John Schuurman ('68), current pastor at Wheaton CRC, Wheaton, Illinois.

Literary critic Northrup Frye once said, "Senility is nothing more than the condition of someone who has no sense of the past."

Schaap says, "We risk senility in not telling our story," even if the focus lies heavily on white, Dutch-American history." However, to showcase the CRC's increasing ethnic diversity, each performance will include an ethnically diverse group of people from the CRC churches in that area.

"Our Family Album: Free to Serve" is unique in its mission. Schaap says, "This show is meant to make us think specifically, of course, about where we're going as a denomination."

To help create a feeling of unity as a

denomination, all who come to the shows are encouraged to bring a photograph of their family to be included in a traveling "Family Album" scrapbook.

Dordt's campus pastor, Don Draayer ('72), is also a cast member. He says, "I hope that those who view this play will gain an understanding not only of our history as a denomination, but also an appreciation for the differences that continue to characterize our lives as we approach a new millennium."

Assistant director and cast member Jeri Schelhaas ('67) says that she is more committed than ever to the CRC after working on this production. "We are telling the story of the denomination with all its flaws exposed. Its weaknesses are there for all to see, but we hold up only one hope for the future and that is forgiveness and redemption in the Lord Jesus Christ."

(*Our Family Album: the Unfinished Story of the Christian Reformed Church* is available by contacting CRC Publications in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Copies will also be available at each performance of "Our Family Album: Free to Serve.")

Performances

Nov. 7Lansing, Ill.
Nov. 8Wheaton College
Nov. 20 . . .Kalamazoo, Mich.
Nov. 21Calvin College
Nov. 22Holland, Mich.
Jan. 8Ottawa, Ont.
Jan. 9Redeemer College



DORDT COLLEGE

VICE PRESIDENT FOR BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Dordt College invites applications and nominations for the position of vice president for business affairs. Serving on the president's cabinet, the VPBA provides leadership for all financial and business affairs of the college. Areas of oversight include financial accounting and reporting, contract management, budgeting, human resources, physical plant maintenance and construction, purchasing, risk management, and investments.

Candidates should have significant experience in fiscal systems and operations management in higher education or a similar setting and should have a minimum of five years of successful leadership in business, financial, and administrative functions. Effective communication and interpersonal skills are necessary, along with knowledge in the use of management information systems. A graduate degree in an appropriate field is preferred.

Enthusiastic Christians with a commitment to the Reformed faith and a desire to help lead a dynamic and growing institution are invited to send a letter of application and résumé to the office of the president at the address below. Review of applications will begin November 1, 1998, and continue until the position is filled.

FACULTY POSITIONS

Dordt College is seeking Christian academicians for openings beginning August 1999 in the following areas:

Art Education: potential two-year position
Business Administration: two positions
Health, Physical Education, and Recreation
Computer Science / Mathematics: potential two-year position
Philosophy
Director of Graduate Education
Spanish
Economics
Theater Arts: potential two-year position

Evaluation of applications will begin December 1 and continue until the positions are filled. To learn more about a position and receive application materials, qualified persons committed to a Reformed, biblical perspective and educational philosophy are encouraged to send a letter of interest that provides evidence of that commitment and a curriculum vitae to Dr. Rockne McCarthy; Dordt College; 498 4th Ave NE; Sioux Center, IA 51250; facsimile: 712-722-4496; e-mail: vpaa@dordt.edu

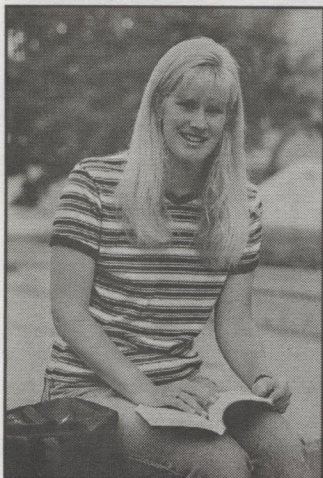
Dordt College is an equal opportunity employer that encourages application by women, minorities, and disabled persons.

DORDT COLLEGE

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Shalom within the Cacophony: Christianity in a postmodern world

Cara Miedema



Cara Miedema is a senior philosophy major from Cambridge, Ontario. Her paper was written for an advanced composition class last spring.

The story
Christians tell has
the possibility
to offer hope in a
postmodern world.

Carnivals are an attack on the senses. I can spend hours wandering through the maze of colorful booths filled with everything from magnets, key chains, and T-shirts to jewelry, weather vanes, and crafts, my mouth watering at the thought of a spicy sausage on a bun or a bag of mini-doughnuts still warm and covered in cinnamon sugar. I rush toward the Ferris wheel, Whirl-a-wheel, and any other upside-down-inside-out-twirl-until-you're-almost-dead kind of ride. Only when I walk through the rows of crowded game booths do I become uneasy, my ears wanting to escape the clamor of oily hawkers calling for my attention and my money. Color. Clamor. Choices. Such words describe carnivals, but our culture could be characterized in the same way, say J. Richard Middleton and Brian J. Walsh. Product advertisers, service industries, and interest groups compete for our attention. We see people wearing anything from grunge jeans and button-down shirts to '60s hairdos and mini-skirts. And to entertain ourselves, we can choose anything from Shakespeare to *Jurassic Park*, from skydiving to a leisurely cruise in a gondola, from tree hugging to tree cutting. We live in a collage culture, a hodge-podge that defies order.

This hodge-podge is one way to describe postmodernity, defined as "the loss of enthusiasm in the grounding convictions of modernity" (Middleton and Walsh 11). In the modern era (beginning sometime around 1500 and arguably now coming to a close), individuals optimistically trusted that a natural order existed in reality and that it need only be discovered. Humans believed themselves to be autonomous and independent beings who could find absolute truth and build an ever more unified and progressive society. But people are beginning to see that this approach to life causes pain. Two world wars and immense regional conflict have killed millions of people, Western industrial culture has squelched the Third World, and technology and progress are bruising and mutilating the environment. Minorities have been ignored. Postmodernists conclude that modernity's claims to absolute and universal systems of truth, so-called metanarratives, are inevitably oppressive and violent.

Postmodernity has often accused Christianity of being a metanarrative, of presenting a system of absolute truth that inevitably oppresses and violates parts of society. How can Christians respond to this charge? We must attune ourselves to the sounds and images of postmodernism, both learning from its insights and offering a hopeful alternative to its ultimately vacuous nature.

Let us take a walk through the maze of the postmodern carnival. In place of metanarratives, which presume too much, postmodernists presume nothing. Rejecting truth as an absolute means that every voice becomes equally legitimate. Truth becomes "more a matter of 'truth-for-us' than 'truth-as-such'" (Shin 16). We disagree over sexual orientation, religious perspectives, lifestyles, fashion, peace, and happiness; but the "right" answer is only a matter of interpretation. In our attempt to be politically correct, our views must remain just that, *our* views, and they may not be projected onto others. A carnivalesque culture offers no mainstage and no featured attraction, only sideshows.

A culture of sideshows rejects a natural order in reality, for this too would be a metanarrative. Postmodernists believe that we live in a self-constructed reality. We can make our world as we like it: virtual reality games, 1-900 numbers, climate-controlled malls that look like old-fashioned shopping neighborhoods (Middleton and Walsh 38). We construct even ourselves.

For those who want to become "new" people, society offers such services as career counseling, fitness centers, self-help groups, adult education, and cosmetic surgery. But a tension troubles us: although a degree of freedom is good, too much freedom yields an uneasy and ironic sense of impotence and confusion.

David Lyon has defined postmodernism loosely as "the exhaustion of modernity" (6). Exhaustion indeed. I enjoy carnivals, but by the end of the day, I'm worn out from the mesmerizing sounds and sights and need a quiet evening, curled up on the sofa. But postmodernity does not offer such a calming interlude. "When all those who were voiceless under modernity begin articulating their claims in a postmodern situation, the result is a bewildering cacophony" (Middleton and Walsh 13). Postmodernists may celebrate the end to imposed constraints on reality and action, but they cannot deny the human need for something to cling to. "The postmodern worldview cannot sustain hope or empower us to live in the face of the ethical chaos and brutality that characterizes the ending of modernity" (78).

To this ethical chaos and brutality, Christians can respond in a number of ways. Some Christians are ostriches, hoping that by denying the presence of postmodernity, and avoiding its influence, they will cause the whole cultural trend to go away (Padgett 130). This is naive. As social and intellectual creatures called by God to engage in culture, we are standing in the middle of the postmodern river. Regardless of how far we roll up our pant-legs, we're going to get wet. Some Christians admit that society is in crisis, but they still seek to escape the problem by returning to the good old days; if not to modernity, then to the old-time Christian gospel, which they see as a timeless remedy for all ills (Middleton and Walsh 173). A third group of Christians may demonize postmodernism as completely atheistic and unbiblical, while at the other extreme, other Christians are too ready to celebrate the megaphone that pluralistic postmodernity lifts for the Christian voice (Padgett 130).

A faithful response to the postmodern situation involves going beyond any one of the above approaches. Christians must take advantage of the opportunities postmodernity affords, recognize the insights that it offers, and pay attention to its critique of modernity. At the same time, we must also be aware of the ultimate vacuousness and lack of direction permeating the movement. Not content with an old-time gospel, we must reorient ourselves and our Christian beliefs so that we might offer relevant, compassionate, and powerful hope to those being swept away by the postmodern currents. In the river, wet from the hips down, we will stand our ground.

Although the modern era afforded valuable advances in areas including technology, health care, democracy, and the human standard of living, postmodernists rightly condemn modernity for its idolatrous belief in the power of human reason and scientific objectivism. Their criticism of modernity for exploiting the environment and alienating those on the margins is well-founded. The world that placed ultimate faith in reason "is a world well lost" (Padgett 129).

How shall we respond to the world that is replacing lost modernity? The pluralistic nature of the postmodern is a double-edged sword. On the one hand, its willingness to let the Christian solution be heard provides an opportunity for Christians to be actively involved in the public arena. For this we can rejoice and work vigorously to spread the good news while our path is smooth. But on the other hand, the radical plu-

ralism of postmodernity denies that anyone has a privileged access to truth. Middleton and Walsh ask, "So, can we still believe that all the pagans who don't believe in Jesus are destined for eternal damnation" (30)? If we say yes, postmodernists condemn us for holding an exclusivist, intolerant position and reject Christianity as another violent, oppressive metanarrative. If we say no, Christianity seems artificial and loses its integrity.

Richard J. Mouw offers a helpful way to deal with plurality in postmodernism. He classifies three types of pluralism: contextual (diversity across race, gender, and class); associational (regarding family, club, corporation); and directional (philosophies of life, values, religious orientation). We can recognize that these forms of pluralism exist and can even affirm pluralism within social and cultural contexts and associations; diversity is creational and indeed necessary for discussion and education. We must not endorse, however, any form of directional pluralism; without subscribing to an ordering principle for life we would fall into ultimate relativism (18).

To the charge that Christianity is a violent and totalizing metanarrative, we may acknowledge that the biblical story has been wielded as a weapon to oppress and exclude, to legitimize prejudice and violence particularly between races (Middleton and Walsh 84). Slavery in the U.S. and apartheid in South Africa are two painful examples. But pointing to the history of God's people in the Old and New Testaments, we can claim that the Bible works against totalization and violence. God demonstrates a radical sensitivity to suffering, both in his covenantal interaction with the Israelites and in his compassionate healing ministry and redemptive work through the person of Jesus Christ. Because Christ seeks to redeem the whole world, the Bible becomes the story of all creation—*our* story, regardless of who we are (106). No other voice in this postmodern age speaks so eloquently of justice and compassion!

The story Christians tell has the possibility to offer hope in a postmodern world. It first demonstrates that Christians and postmodernists are ultimately concerned with the same problem: creation's brokenness. But whereas postmodernists claim that the only way to get rid of violence is to reject all metanarratives, Christians can point to Jesus Christ, whose sacrificial death and mission to bring shalom through the active working of the Holy Spirit are the ultimate solutions to violence. To the bewilderment postmodernists feel in a socially constructed world, Christians can respond that the world has a *God-created* order, an order neither violent nor exclusive, an order that God is working to restore. Christians can also offer hope to postmodernists whose belief in self-construction leaves them feeling powerless and fragmented, lost in moral confusion. The Bible tells us that we are not self-constructs but rather carefully fashioned by God in his image. This gift of royal status and dignity means that we depend solely on him for life and redemption. But it also is a call to represent God's rule as Creator and Redeemer, a task of stewardship that gives us power and a genuine authority within our culture (Middleton and Walsh 140-1).

We began with the carnival scene, full of color and choices to the point of clamor. Let us conclude with a new scene, equally colorful, equally diverse, equally noisy. But it has this distinguishing feature: in Acts 2 as the church celebrates Pentecost, racial colors, cultural diversities, and noisy language differences are *unified* by the fire of the Holy Spirit. This image of shalom must give us direction through the carnival maze of postmodernity.

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Dr. Lorna Van Gilst spent time in and out of the classroom with her Venezuelan students

Van Gilst spends Fulbright year in Venezuela

Lorna Van Gilst

I know now where Canada geese go in winter. I saw some of them in Venezuela. The geese stayed on the grassy plains, *los llanos*, but I lived in the city of Merida at the foot of Pico Bolivar, the highest peak in the Venezuelan Andes Mountains.

Receiving a ten-month Fulbright award, I left Sioux Center in August of 1997 to teach and conduct research in English as a foreign language at Universidad de Los Andes, a national university of about 25,000 students. My term was extended through July of this year so that I could complete most of the second semester. Semesters don't necessarily correspond with North American schedules. Depending on the number and duration of power failures, water shutoffs, and professor strikes, an eighteen-week semester can take as long as six months. Students expect an eight-semester degree program to take a minimum of five years.

Mornings begin early in tropical Venezuela. By 5:30 a.m. families are already eating hot *arepas* filled with cheese and drinking cups of steaming *café con leche*, made from local coffee beans. By 7:00 many students begin extension classes at the university, and teenagers head to classrooms in basic and secondary schools. Clusters of blue and navy uniforms fill the chugging little buses that weave through morning traffic.

English is a required subject in all Venezuelan secondary schools—and no more popular there than in North America. Students all over the country have the same national curriculum, so in a given week, all seventh graders in the country will be trying to tell time in English: "Ten minutes of two o'clock," they recite in formal British English.

Most of the time I taught English writing courses at the university. Students enrolled in the Modern Languages Department study one major foreign language, usually English, and one or two other languages from German, Portuguese, French, or Italian. Most of the students hope to translate or to teach, and all of them must complete a rigorous thesis or internship either in a foreign country or in a company with international connections.

I taught basic courses in reading and writing English, advanced courses in writing qualitative research, and a writing course for teachers of English. My students were able to identify gerunds, participles, and reflexive verbs with more precision than most native English speakers. Yet they were hesitant to write anything original. According to Spanish style, they

composed long, convoluted, impersonal sentences. Early in the term they asked me, "Can you please give us the strategies to read and write in English?" They had memorized the phonemes, the morphemes, the linguistic theories, the articulation symbols. But they had done very little speaking, reading, or writing of English in context. I had to speak slowly, write key words and ideas on the board, and teach without the benefit of textbooks.

The students' struggles with English and my own struggles with Spanish provided wonderful opportunities for me to talk with them. The students helped me with practical matters like what bus to take, where to get off, and how to say "*en la parada, por favor*" in time to get the driver to stop. But they also came with personal concerns, family problems, and questions about how God could allow so much government corruption or so much poverty that

old people had to peddle ice cream on the street. Frequently they took me to their homes or their family's stall in the market, or they walked with me to my apartment in order "to practice English and learn your culture."

Sometimes when the university was closed for strikes, students met for classes in my apartment. One reading and writing class came on the last day of the term with bags of fresh fruits and vegetables from the market and produced a three-course traditional dinner in my tiny kitchen. Then we feasted on Venezuelan chicken and rice, exotic natural fruit juices, a rich flan, and students' favorite original essays, written in English of course.

The students were delightful, the scenery breathtaking, and the street scenes vivid with color and rhythms. Of course, I faced cultural frustrations too. I could never understand why people made appointments they didn't expect to keep, or why I had to wait in line for several hours to pay a bill or see a doctor. I wondered at first if I were expected to give as many gifts as I received—students would often slip me a little package of candy or biscuits or soda crackers. Why would my neighbor show up at my door early in the morning with bags full of plantains, papayas, and giant mangas? Were these bribes or genuine gifts? I didn't understand why phones would suddenly disconnect or electrical power would suddenly fail, but I learned to find my candles and matches in the dark—or visit with my neighbors until the lights came back on. Life was rich and colorful, though not so convenient.

Convenience is almost a surprise for me now, not an expectation. Peeling away the expectations of North American culture sharpened my impressions, sharpened my sense of purpose. Merida was my mountain top. There on the mountain I came to know something more of the power of God, of God's infinite creativity in that land of verdant growth and colorful rhythms. I came to know people who are searching for wholeness amidst deep poverty and insecurity. I came to know in surprising ways how God uses the study of foreign language to reveal the Word. I hope I never lose the surprise.

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Mennega receives John Calvin award

If you expect students to be successful, they often will be," says Dr. Aaldert Mennega, the recipient of this year's John Calvin Award. But it doesn't just happen, Mennega adds. He finds he often has to follow up with students outside of class to help them work to their potential.

Mennega was awarded the John Calvin award at the faculty dinner last spring. The award is presented to a faculty member in recognition of a commitment to teaching from a Calvinistic perspective and for developing and transmitting reformational insight in a discipline. The faculty member is nominated by alumni and fellow faculty members and selected by a committee of alumni.

Mennega was surprised and honored by the award. "Usually students say little about your teaching and even less after they leave," he says. "You wonder how much influence you have had. It's a real encouragement to see that what I've talked about in class is taken seriously."

Mennega, who began his professional career as a medical technologist, says he's never been sorry he made the switch to teaching. "There are so many important issues relating to health and the human body that students need to know—not only for those going into health professions but also for people who have to make responsible choices for themselves and their families." Health, disease, smoking, abortion, anorexia, and care of elderly parents are all issues closely linked to biology that require a biblical understanding in order to be faced responsibly.

"I address these issues in the context of the biological topic we are studying at the time," he says. "I try to draw students out, giving them guidelines, but letting them form their personal responses to these issues. Too often students don't think systematically enough, but simply respond from the heart," he adds. He believes that students need to know the specific reasons why they hold the position they do toward abortion or toward what constitutes a healthy lifestyle.

"Since they will meet these issues in their professional lives and in their private lives," says Mennega. "They might as well think about them now while they have time to develop an understanding of the issues."

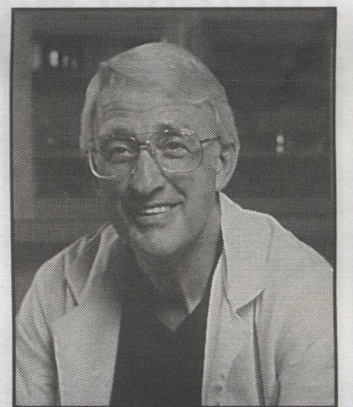
Students who nominated Mennega express appreciation for this emphasis. One wrote,

"Dr. Mennega was someone who sought to motivate the class to understand and appreciate the implications and applications of biology, in spite of the fact that few of us in the class were biology majors."

Another wrote:

"I may not remember all the facts I learned in his classes—because I no longer use them daily, but due in large part to his life and teaching, I have centered my life on the Scriptures."

Mennega hopes to continue to influence students for a couple more years. At present he plans to retire in the year 2000, the year he turns 70, his oldest child turns 40 and his youngest turns 30. "Good round numbers," he says. "A good time to retire."

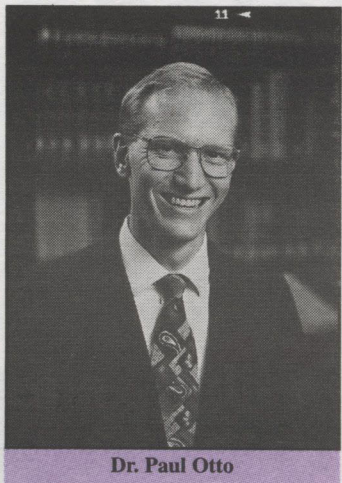


Dr. Aaldert Mennega has taught biology at Dordt since 1964.

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If you expect students to be successful, they often will be.

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Dr. Paul Otto

Dr. Paul Otto, assistant professor of history, was recently awarded the \$1000 Hendricks Manuscript Award given annually for the best manuscript focusing on an aspect of the Dutch Colonial experience in North America. Otto's thesis, "New Netherlandic Frontier: Europeans and Native Americans along the Lower Hudson River, 1524-1664," was chosen by a group of five scholars.

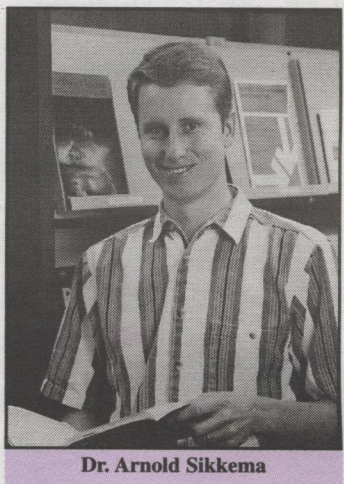
Dr. John Vander Stelt, professor of theology and philosophy, and former Dordt president Dr. John Hulst met with members of the executive committee of the International Association for the Promotion of Christian Higher Education from Africa and Latin America to plan ways to promote Christian higher education around the world.

Dr. Nolan Van Gaalen represented the Upper Midwest Region of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) at their summer administrative meeting in Toronto. Van Gaalen is the senior representative of the Student Sections Committee, which sponsors a nationwide student design contest each year.

Van Gaalen also participated in a forum of Christian engineering educators following the American Society for Engineering Education meetings held in Seattle this summer.

Dr. Tom Visker, professor of health, physical education, and recreation recently completed four units that will be included in the revised physical education curriculum to be published by Christian Schools International this fall. Visker wrote units on basketball, softball, cooperative games, and outdoor recreation.

David Netz, vice president for information services, was a speaker at the Association of College and University Tele-communications Administrators meeting held in San Diego from July 12-14. The title of his presentation was "A Small College with a Small Telco in a Small Town: The Dordt/MTCNet Partnering Story." Netz was part of the senior leadership forum addressing issues relating to public/private partnering.



Dr. Arnold Sikkema

Dr. Charles Adams, professor of engineering, contributed a chapter to *Signposts of God's Liberating Kingdom: Perspectives for the 21st Century, Volume 1*. Adams' chapter was titled "From Doing Things Right to Doing the Right Thing: The Role of the Humanities in the Education of Technological Culture-Formers." The book is a special edition of the journal, *Orientation*, and is published by the Institute for Reformational Studies on behalf of Potchefstroom University for Christian Higher Education. Emeritus professor of chemistry **Dr. Russell Maatman** also contributed a chapter to the book, titled "Social Problems and God's Plan of Redemption."

Dr. John Van Dyk, director of the Center for Educational Services, conducted a variety of workshops over the summer. In May he team taught social studies classes in Duncan Christian Secondary School in British Columbia; in June he presented a lecture on pedagogy at the Christian Pedagogical School in Zwolle, the Netherlands, and also met with Christian educators at Christian schools in Bath, Nottingham, and London, England. In July he taught graduate courses at Covenant College in Tennessee and at Dordt. And in August he addressed the faculty of Trinity Christian College on pedagogy issues.

Dr. George Faber, professor of education, was appointed to the Executive Committee of the Iowa Association of Colleges of Teacher Education (IACTE). Faber also made a presentation on the state of private college teacher education programs to the Iowa House and Senate committee studying teacher education in the state. And he served as the local representative on higher education to the Governor's Conference on Science and Mathematics held in Des Moines in August.

Nine faculty presented papers at the August "Ways of Knowing" conference held on Dordt's campus: **Karen De Mol**, "Musical Modes, Moods, and Means"; **Robert De Smith**, "Between Play and Plain and Simple: Bunyan's Defense of Fiction"; **Simon du Toit**, "Goodness in Performance of Goodness";

Sydney Hielema, "Even as Now I Am Fully Known"; **Paul Moes**, "Brain Modules and their Multiple Ways of Knowing: Implications for the Unity of the Person"; **James C. Schaap**, "Writing as Knowing: The Moral Nature of Fiction"; **Mike Vanden Bosch**, "Poetry as a Way of Knowing"; **John Vander Stelt**, "Faculty Psychology and Theology"; and **Tim Vos**, "The News Story as Journalists' Way of Knowing."

Sikkema studies the relation of modern physics and faith

Dr. Arnold Sikkema spent five weeks of his summer studying with Dr. John Polkinghorne, a renowned Christian physicist, at the Faculty Summer Seminar on Christian Scholarship held at Calvin College. Funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts, the seminar brought together Christian physicists and philosophers to study the relation of modern physics to faith. Sikkema was one of fifteen people selected to participate in the seminar.

"Most people are not familiar with modern physics and have a nineteenth century Newtonian notion of the world as a place that runs by certain laws," says Sikkema. God's only role is in winding up the clock and letting it go, in this view. Not only does this worldview make it difficult to find a place for God, it makes it easy to virtually eliminate him from the picture, says Sikkema.

Modern physics through quantum mechanics and chaos theory shows how utterly unpredictable the world and the future really are, he says. "You simply cannot predict the future based on certain physical laws, because, as chaos theory demonstrates, one tiny change can have huge effects on the future. You need to know absolutely every detail in the universe to predict what is going to happen," says Sikkema. And that is impossible.

Polkinghorne, who is an Anglican priest as well as a physicist, asked the question, "Can scientists pray for rain?" His answer was yes, God can act and be perfectly consistent with the laws he set to govern the universe. This view has significant implications for understanding the relation between faith and science, believes Sikkema.

The fifteen participants, who were selected by Polkinghorne based on their proposed research topics earlier last spring, spent their time in lectures, small work groups, individual study, and consultation with Polkinghorne. Sikkema chose to study Reformed views of the laws of physics, beginning with the work of Stafleu, a Christian physicist. He plans to continue his research over the coming year, joining with other seminar participants again in April for a conference to share research. He and the others are committed to publishing their work in the near future.

Not only was the seminar a tremendous professional development opportunity, it also gave Sikkema valuable background for a course he is teaching this semester, *Perspectives in Physical Science*.

"I learned so much, my students can't help but benefit from it," he says enthusiastically. He believes it also has deepened his ability to articulate a Christian perspective on physics in his courses. And it has given him a launching pad for follow-up research projects.

Lantinga earns Ph.D. studying the effects of stigmas



Dr. Sherri Lantinga

Psychology professor Sherri Lantinga successfully defended her dissertation last spring, earning her Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Chicago in August. In her dissertation titled "Stigmas & Political Ideology: When Do They Matter?" Lantinga explored people's responses to others who have some social stigma—such as being obese. She also explored whether conservatives and liberals act similarly or differently in a legal setting.

From her research Lantinga knew that people generally are more willing to help others if those people aren't perceived to have caused their own problem. Lantinga knew from other cases that where ideologically "correct" responses were obvious, conservatives were less likely to feel sympathy for and help people in need.

Lantinga found that, in a legal setting, political liberals and conservatives were equally willing to help and to harm the individuals involved—they acted just alike. This suggests that more care must be taken when assuming that conservatives and liberals think differently, she says. In at least some situations, both groups may respond in ideologically "correct" ways rather than carefully thinking through the issues.

Second, it seems to matter whether the stigma was directly related to the situation. That is, if a woman injured when her bus seat broke beneath her was obese, she was much less likely to win her legal case than if she was

not obese or had a stigma that was unrelated to the broken seat situation at all (a Jehovah's Witness). Therefore, just having a stigma may not result in prejudice against that individual—but when that stigma is clearly connected to a situation of need, discrimination may occur.

Third, helping and harming seemed to result from different psychological processes. Beliefs about who was responsible for the situation affected decisions to help the injured woman but did not influence decisions to harm the bus owner. Lantinga says more research is needed before reaching any conclusions about the different motivations behind helping and harming.

Lantinga says she was surprised to find that the tour bus owner was held less responsible for the situation when the injured woman had a stigma than when she didn't—even when the injured woman's stigma had no connection to the incident. Her research suggested that the presence of a victim's stigma may decrease the responsibility of a perpetrator. For example, supervisors who fire obese people or homosexuals may be judged less accountable for the firing than supervisors who fire average-weight people or heterosexuals, even though weight or sexual orientation are unrelated to the job. "This kind of finding has clear implications for discrimination—if we treat stigmatized people unfairly, we are more likely to 'get away with it' than if we were to treat non-stigmatized people the same way," she says.

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Jansen is first out-of-state and first woman board chair

Sally Jongsma

Gail Jansen is the new chairperson of the Dordt College board of trustees. Her tenure marks the first time a chair has lived outside of the immediate college community and the first time a woman has served in that role.

Jansen, an attorney from Tucson, Arizona, has strong ties to the institution. A 1974 graduate, she has served three terms on the board of trustees, her current service beginning in 1994. Jansen is appreciative of her undergraduate education and says Dordt transformed her vision for service in God's kingdom. And since August she is also the parent of a Dordt student, Aaron, a freshman. Jansen and her husband, Harvey, also a 1974 graduate and presently a CPA in Tucson, have three younger sons, Mark, Alex, and Michael.

Jansen brings a variety of experiences to the job of chair. She has served on governing and administrative boards for a variety of Christian organizations, including the Center for Public Justice, the Christian Conciliation Service of Southern Arizona, and the Tucson Chapter of the Christian Legal Society. She is also active in her church both as committee chair and as musician. Her professional experience and her roles in these organizations will help shape the way she undertakes her job.

"There are some policies that I'd like put in place to help us avoid problems in the future," says Jansen when asked about her goals for the board for the coming year. One of these is a conflict of interest policy for board members and staff.

"The size and complexity of the institution means that it is time to set such policies to avoid even the appearance of impropriety." She admits that problems at some Christian institutions have prompted the board to set priorities in this area.

A second goal Jansen lists is to implement a protocol for board self-evaluation and assessment. As part of this process, the board plans to put out a handbook detailing the policies, by-laws, responsibilities, protocols, and materials needed for board members to do their job.

"If board members are to govern effectively



they need to understand the direction of the college and give their full support," she says. "If we are to evaluate faculty commitment and perspective we need to know that perspective ourselves." Currently board members are asked to submit a response in support of the *Educational Task of Dordt College*. She would like to find people from all over the country who will support that task and join in promoting the education that is offered here. Jansen hopes the board of trustees can become an even more diverse group, providing broader representation based on careers, skills, ethnicity, and gender.

"We have exciting things to offer people from other faith communities," she says. Although achieving such diversity must be based on the unified vision that drives Dordt College, Jansen would like to see Dordt's brand of education and the expertise of its faculty shared even more than it currently is with those outside of its more traditional constituencies.

And finally, Jansen wants the board to engage in long-term institutional planning.

"A board should anticipate rather than react," she says. "We need to look a generation ahead to be ready when the time comes."

As the board works to achieve those goals, Jansen foresees a wide range of other challenges that will need a place on the agenda. In the next few years the board will have to replace many long-time faculty as well as the vice president for business affairs, Bernard De Wit.

"It seems that there is a limited pool of Reformed scholars to draw from," Jansen says. "We need to figure out how to attract the best of them and how to enfold them into our community."

The board must also examine whether new programs should be introduced and, in light of burgeoning enrollments during the last few years, the board may have to address the issue of size. Is there an optimum size? How big should we get? What does it mean for faculty and buildings?

The building issue is already real. The board is currently considering how to provide adequate space for administrative offices, student services, and the bookstore. These are big decisions, says Jansen, because the board needs to act responsibly for not only the present but also the future.

One challenge that Jansen feels passionately about is examining how effectively we communicate to the broader Christian community. Is our message getting through?

"Many ideas that I first heard at Dordt College I now hear expressed by other segments of the church of Christ," she says, adding that language such as "integrating faith and learning" and "Christ as Lord of all life" can be catch phrases, but they open a door for further communication and for making an impact that was not possible twenty years ago.

"I believe there is an openness for the kind of vision that is found at Dordt that we must respond to," she says.

Jansen already knows that serving as chair will demand a significant amount of her time. In addition to the travel there are hours of phone conversations and plenty of detail work. But those aren't obstacles for an organized person. And in fact, she says, she has experienced such tremendous personal and spiritual growth from serving on boards of Christian organizations, including Dordt's board, that she looks forward to the opportunity.

"It's wonderful to see how the Lord works in the lives of Christians from across the country. It's exhilarating to hear how God is working in the lives of people of diverse backgrounds and to share a common commitment to Dordt College," she says.

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Campaign update

Lyle Gritters

We are pleased and grateful to God to report that the Dordt 2000 Campaign has gone over the \$16 million goal, reaching a total of \$16,027,000 by October 1, 1998.

As reflected in the table below, the October 1, 1998, total of general endowment fund gifts has reached \$2,906,000, close to \$1 million over the original goal. This reflects a wonderful response to the need for scholarship funds and other endowment programs. The cumulative total raised for the capital projects and annual fund component of the campaign was \$13,121,000. That leaves \$879,000 to raise for this component during the last sixteen months of the campaign.

Campaign Figures (as of October 1, 1998)

Campaign component	Goal	Pledged or received	Percentage of goal reached
Capital projects and annual fund (cash or pledges)	\$14,000,000	\$13,121,000	94%
General endowment (deferred, matured, and cash gifts)	\$2,000,000	\$2,906,000	145%
TOTAL	\$16,000,000	\$16,027,000	100%

In the ongoing effort to reach the \$14,000,000 goal for capital projects and the annual fund, the development staff will continue to call on constituents who have not yet been contacted for campaign gifts, and they will host campaign dinners in various locations during the next sixteen months. Fall fund raising for the Annual Fund will also be an important part of this effort.

We expect the Matching Gifts Program to continue to generate new pledge commitments to the campaign. By October 1, we had used \$674,000 of the \$900,000 in the fund, leaving \$226,000 to match new or increased gifts. With the beginning of this fiscal year, all new pledges to the Dordt 2000 Campaign are being matched dollar for dollar.

The Matching Gifts Program will officially terminate on December 31, 1999, or when the matching fund is exhausted.

Please pray for God's continued blessings on these fund raising efforts.

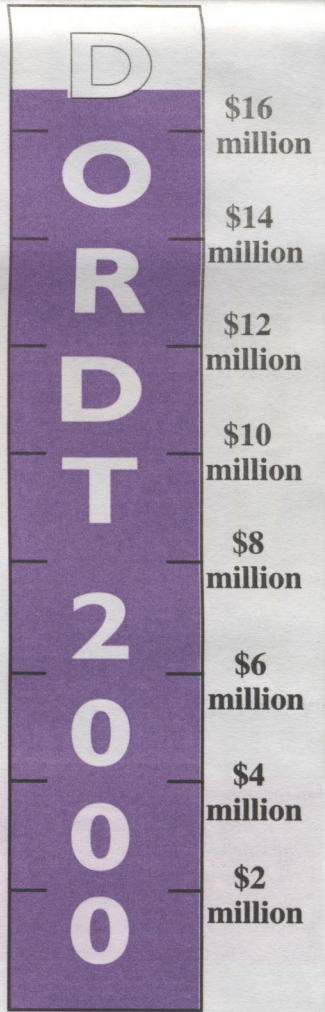
Upcoming Dordt 2000 Campaign Dinners

October 26	Lacombe, Alberta
October 30	Edmonton, Alberta
November 12	Holland, Michigan
November 12	Kalamazoo, Michigan

The beginning of the 1998-99 academic year was also the kickoff for the various fund-raising activities for the Annual Fund, officially renamed the Dordt College Fund.

Fund-raising for the Dordt College Fund consists of two main programs. The first, the Leadership Gifts Program, will ask about 250 constituents over the next six months to make a gift of \$500 or more for this year's annual fund needs. The second, the annual phonathon, will be conducted by a group of forty Dordt students from September through December. During the phonathon, students will call nearly 18,000 alumni, parents, and friends asking them to participate. DC Fund gifts, along with church support, help cover annual operating expenses of the college, thereby keeping tuition more affordable for Dordt students.

As a special incentive for this year's donors, matching gift funds are being made available for all DC Fund commitments. All gifts to the advance fund (also called the Leadership Gifts Program) will be matched as follows: gifts up to \$999 will be matched at 50 percent and all gifts of \$1000 or more will be matched at 100 percent. "Increased" gifts to the phonathon program will also be matched at 100%. The overall goal for this year's drive is \$500,000.



Campaign goal:
\$16 million
Raised to date:
\$16.027 million

Dordt 2000 is a five-year, \$16 million campaign to provide additional campus facilities, meet the annual fund goals, and increase the endowment.



New book of poetry chronicles grace in life

Laura Apol ('85) and her children, Jesse and Hannah, enjoy finding evidences of God's grace in their lives. Apol is an assistant professor at Michigan State University. She teaches writing and children's literature.

What is the inspiration for your poems?

Almost all my writing comes from the "stuff" of my life—the things that happen that seem ordinary or insignificant, but that are resonant for me for one reason or another. Saying that, though, requires an addendum: just because "life" may have inspired a piece of writing doesn't mean that that piece of writing is "true" to the facts of my life or of anyone else's.

What I mean is that because I usually write in the first person, it's easy to imagine that I'm telling a story that is "true" to the facts of my life—that the speaker in the poem is me, and that the content of the poem somehow matches my life experience. That is definitely not the case; although the impetus for the poem may come from my life (or from stories I've heard, or from a phrase that catches my attention), there is limitless "license" that takes place in the poem after that. Sometimes in the middle of a poem that is basically "true" I will insert something that could have been true, or that I wish had been true, or that is not true but that for the sake of the poem becomes a truth.

In the end, the poem is the thing. Does it speak its own truth? Does it resonate? Does it say something worth saying? I don't let my students defend their pieces by saying "that's the way it was" and I don't want readers to make that mistake with my work either. In the poems, I'm a storyteller, and to be a good storyteller one has to create a believable world, whether or not that world actually took place the way it's told.

What makes a poem a good one?

A good poem surprises me. It takes me in ways I hadn't expected. Writing is an act of trust—that one idea will lead to another, that one line will lead to another, that things that don't belong will find their way out and things that do belong will find their way in, and that the whole poem is larger than its various pieces. When I try to control the writing process, the poems are flat, contrived—you can tell I've had to work hard to get where I'm going. When I follow the poem, let it lead me, trust that I'll know the ending when I get to it—then the poems are more interesting (both to write and to read); they make greater leaps, they ask more from the reader, and they give more back.

How did *Falling Into Grace* come to be?

Many of the poems in *Falling into Grace* are older poems. My life has undergone many changes in the past five years, and my poems reflect those changes. A few years ago, I noticed that when I did readings or put sets of poems together for submission, I could divide my work into several fairly distinct phases, determined to a large extent by my life circumstances and the stage I was in as a writer. There were themes that recurred, images that came up again and again, echoes. But there were huge differences as well—poems that clashed, stories that conflicted, styles that worked against one another. I stopped seeing my work as a "whole" and started seeing that I had different pieces written in different voices for different audiences and different occasions.

I decided it was time to create a collection of poems that I thought belonged together. The poems were shuffled, arranged, and rearranged—a process that took several years. As I worked with them, the pieces themselves started showing me what the collection was about; what emerged from the poems was something of my evolving awareness of what is sacred, what is holy in my life. To me, holiness is not about specific religious doctrines; it's about a way of being in the world—awake, alive, open to seeing grace at work moment by moment. And the poems showed me that.

The title is a twist on the theological idea of falling from grace. It reminds me of a game my children love in which they begin by telling me about some calamity—to which I am expected to respond, "That's bad news." It turns out I'm wrong, though, for the next incident, inseparably linked to the first, turns the story around, and I am required to acknowledge that what had initially seemed like bad news actually is "good news." But once again the story turns on itself as the next episode makes it clear that what I'm hearing is, after all, "bad news." And so on, until, in response to the litany of events and outcomes, I am forced to admit that I can't tell the difference. Good news, bad news, it all depends on how you see it, what came before, what comes after.

I see grace in much the same way: who's to say which falls are falls *from*, and which falls are falls *into* or which falls are both.

And so *Falling into Grace* is about that very complicated journey, and about the kind of grace that shows up where it's least expected: in

the ordinary acts of washing dishes or hanging laundry, in a cardinal at the feeder, in a mother's illness, in a grandmother's quilt, in the blue wing of a jay. I think the poems in the collection are, for the most part, meditative poems—poems that reflect on what it has meant to me at various times in my life to be a daughter and a granddaughter, a wife, a homemaker, a graduate student, and a mother. And I hope that the voice they speak in is a voice that others can both recognize and identify with.

These poems reflect deep personal experiences and feelings. How does it feel seeing them in book form?

I have to confess that it's a little shocking. People know things about me that I've not told them; they assume that the things they've read are *me*—and sometimes they are, but sometimes they're not. When you write fiction, you get to hide behind the characters you create; the words are still yours, but it's your art that's being put forward. With these poems, it feels like it's not only my art that's being read, it's my life—the things that have made me happy, the things that have caused me pain, the places where I'm conflicted or confused. I keep wanting to repeat that the poems aren't me, that poems are words on a page and they don't change, but people do change—they grow and they learn. And writers shape stories to create an effect. For instance, in the essay "Pieces of Love" I talk in the opening paragraph about having a large number of my grandmother's quilts—too many quilts to keep track of really, and some stored away besides. The truth is, though, I don't have quilts stored away—not for my children, and certainly not for their children. But I wanted the piece to have resonance; if the point was that I was passing on this story through the quilts, then I needed to have many quilts to hand on. I didn't want to pass around a single quilt—I wanted the quilts to reflect the extravagant love and energy of my grandmother, and therefore I needed an extravagant number of quilts. Last week, though, when I asked my aunt if she had any extra quilts of Grandma, she looked at me oddly and I was embarrassed; after all, hadn't I implied that I had closets filled with quilts?

The point is that I do feel vulnerable with this collection, since it is personal and since so much of it is close to my heart. But that's also powerful, because often the feedback that I get from people who have read the poems tells me that readers have connected to the poems on a personal level as well, and that they've been able to see something in their "ordinary" lives that they hadn't seen before.

How do you teach students how to write poetry?

I tell my students (and myself, when I'm listening!) that in order to write poetry you have to read and read and read, and write and write and write. You have to develop an ear for poetry, you have to see how images and sound and language come together. You have to get the voices of poets you love inside you—you have to *study* them, though it doesn't have to happen in a class—and then you have to practice with your own writing. It's like running a race or playing a recital—you don't just do it your first time out; you practice. And you need to practice writing as well.

And you need to write where your passion is. A lot of people try to write what they think a poem "should be." When I work with students, most of them initially assume a poem has to rhyme; that it has to be about love or flowers or death or nature; and that it has to express emotion. So I show them poems about shoes and toasters and garden hoses, poems that aren't about love and that don't rhyme, poems that play and cry and celebrate, and we talk about what makes these poems "work." It gives them a new perspective on how to write a poem and what to write about.



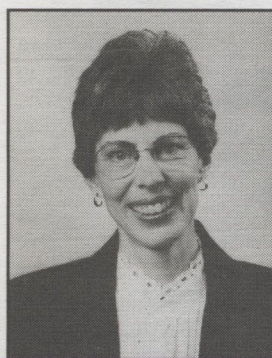
Falling into Grace
Laura Apol

Laura Apol's collection of poetry and essays, *Falling into Grace* is available from the Dordt College Press. For information, call 712-722-6420 or go to www.dordt.edu/onlpub/dordtpress.

Judy Hagey

Alumni come in all shapes and sizes and with varied interests. A multi-faceted, well-attended reunion may be just what one alum is looking for, while a quiet get-together with a select group of

friends satisfies another. An educational conference that revisits a reformational worldview and engages participants in stimulating discussion may be attractive to one, while the excitement of a Homecoming basketball game with



Judy (Vande Hoef, '73) Hagey

an arch-rival appeals to another. A good alumni program recognizes the diversity of ages, interests, and lifestyles among alumni and attempts to provide a little of something for everyone. I hope that you find something in the news, recent events, and upcoming activities of the Dordt Alumni Association that appeals to you and encourages you to be part of the community.

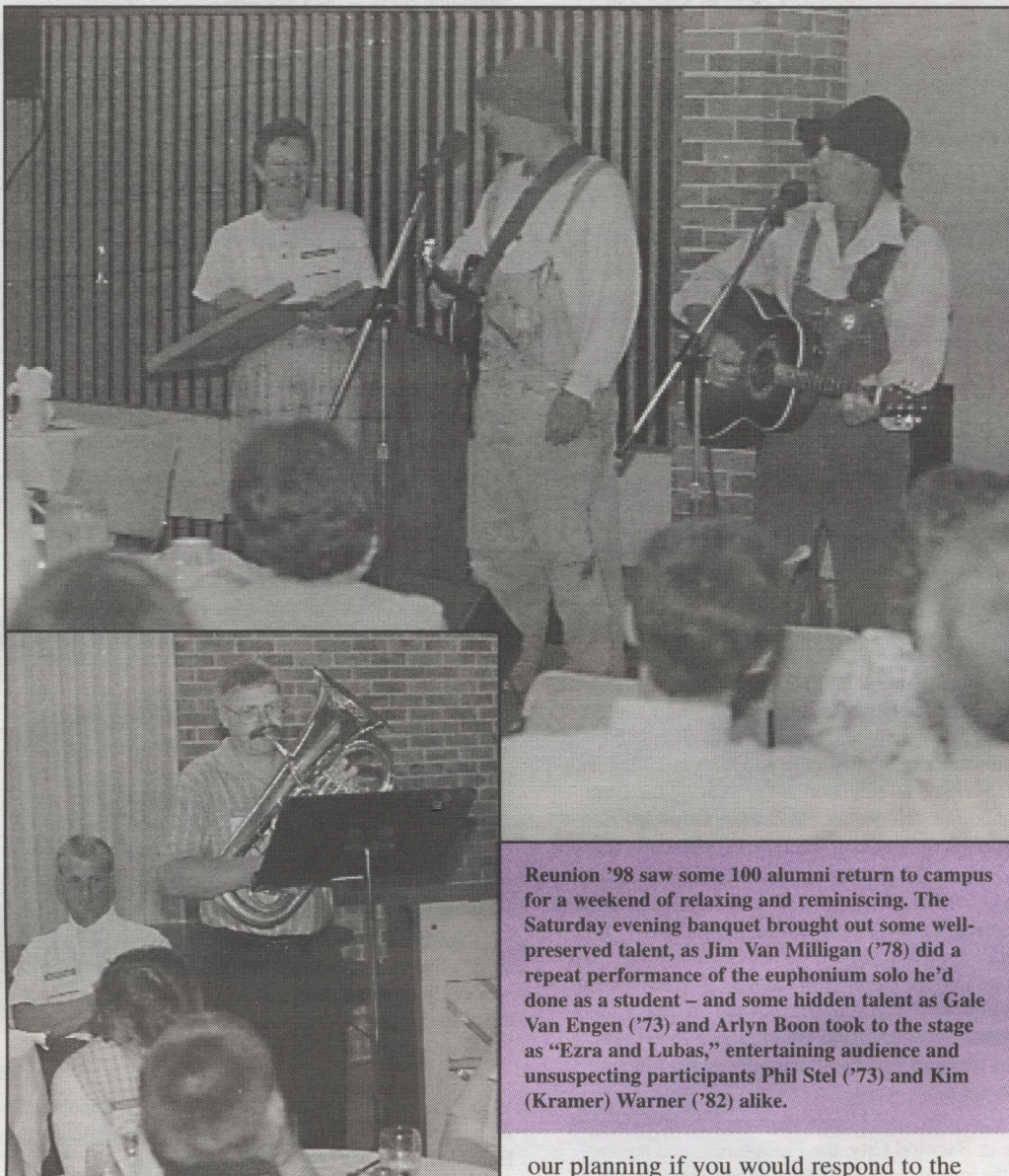
Homecoming notice

Homecoming 1999 is just around the corner. Mark your calendar for January 23, 1999, and make plans to come back to Dordt for a day of fun, food, and fellowship. There will be basketball games, an indoor track meet, the usual hospitality room, and a concert. Watch for more information.

Alumni Orchestra Eurotour

Have you been dreaming of a trip to Europe, but didn't want to go alone? Dr. Henry Duitman says there are five to ten open spots available for any alumni who would like to "tag along" on next summer's alumni chamber orchestra tour. The group will be departing from Minneapolis on June 7 for a two-week tour of the Netherlands, Germany, and Austria.

The first week will be spent in the Netherlands with the orchestra, which is composed of both alumni and current students, performing in some of the most interesting churches there. Between performances the group will visit several sites of interest to Dutch-Americans including Friesland,



Reunion '98 saw some 100 alumni return to campus for a weekend of relaxing and reminiscing. The Saturday evening banquet brought out some well-preserved talent, as Jim Van Milligan ('78) did a repeat performance of the euphonium solo he'd done as a student – and some hidden talent as Gale Van Engen ('73) and Arlyn Boon took to the stage as "Ezra and Lubas," entertaining audience and unsuspecting participants Phil Stel ('73) and Kim (Kramer) Warner ('82) alike.

Groningen, and Kampen. The second week includes stops in Cologne, Heidelberg, and Nuremburg in Germany, and Salzburg and Vienna in Austria.

For more information contact Henry Duitman by mail or e-mail – hduitman@dordt.edu.

Are you interested?

Does the opportunity to travel to some place new with Dordt alumni and friends, learn about culture and history under the guidance of Dordt faculty/staff, tour points of interest and work alongside residents of the community interest you? If so, you'll want to learn more about SALT–Serving And Learning Trips—a program in the early stages of planning which Dordt hopes to offer to constituents next year. It would help us in

our planning if you would respond to the questions below, either in writing to SALT c/o Dordt College, with a call to Judy or Dianne @ 1-800-343-6738 ext.# 3, or by e-mail to judy@dordt.edu or ddewit@dordt.edu.

- Which of the following week-long service-learning trips would you be more likely to participate in?
 - learning about, living, and working with Native American cultures
 - learning about the issues/challenges in a major urban area
- What time of year (month) would you be most likely to participate in such a trip?

Dordt's job bulletin list grows

Includes listings for Christian college grads with experience

Dordt's job bulletin is for alumni, too, says Placement Coordinator Jo Faber. And the newly upgraded Dordt website gives anyone with access to the Internet easy access to the bulletin.

"We're receiving more position announcements from people looking for graduates who have been out of college for some time and gained experience," says Faber. In fact just recently she received a call from someone looking for a chief financial officer. He was interested in someone who had graduated from a Christian college.

Faber urges alumni who are open to a new position to visit Dordt's web site at www.dordt.edu. Once there click on "services," then "Student Services/Placement" and then "Placement." Listings appear under "job notices."

And there is also room for employers looking to post job notices to do so. Clicking on "submit notices" gives quick and easy access to the bulletin.

Meet your new alumni board members

Region 1

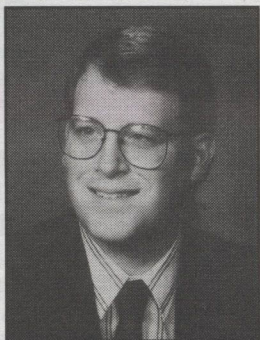
Tammy (Schouten) Rozenboom, '85, replaces retiring president Adri Ruisch, on the executive committee. Tammy and her husband, Dave ('85), live in Sioux Falls with their four children, ages 5-11. Tammy works part-time as a teacher's aide at Calvin Christian School. The Rozenbooms are members of First Christian Reformed Church, where Tammy is the story hour director for Coffee Break. In their free time the Rozenbooms enjoy camping and outdoor activities.



joins the board to represent alumni in region six. He and his wife, Gail (Viss, '74), and their four children attend Trinity Christian Reformed Church in Visalia where Clayton is the choir director. In his spare time Clayton pursues his interest in genealogies and enjoys yard work.

Region 7

Chuck Adams, '90, is the assistant city attorney for Sheboygan, Wisconsin, where he lives with his wife, Kimberly (Cuperus, '89), and their two children. They are members of Calvin Christian Reformed Church. Chuck also serves as the president of the Wisconsin Deacons Conference, and is the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee representative for Classis Wisconsin.



Concert Choir Tour Itinerary

Wednesday,
January 6, 1999

7:30 p.m. Ruskin Heights
Presbyterian Church,
Kansas City, Mo.

Thursday,
January 7, 1999

7:30 p.m. Bethel Christian
Reformed Church,
Dallas, Tex.

Friday,
January 8, 1999

7:30 p.m. Stephenville
Christian Reformed
Church, Stephenville, Tex.

Saturday,
January 9, 1999

7:30 p.m. Dispatch Christian
Reformed Church,
Dispatch, Kans.

Sunday,
January 10, 1999

7:00 p.m. Hope Reformed
Church, Sutton, Neb.

Monday,
January 11, 1999

10:00 a.m. Sutton High
School, Sutton, Neb.

1998-99 Fall Semester Alumni Events

Make plans to get together with Dordt alumni at an event in your area:

Denver, Colorado
"Pizza with the President"
Denver-area alumni and families are invited to join Dr. Zylstra for Dutch treat pizza on Saturday, November 7 at Fiore's in Littleton, Colorado, from 5:30-7:30.

Pella, Iowa
It's Dordt vs. Calvin at 6:00 p.m., Friday, Nov. 27. Get together with friends at the Pella Pizza Ranch after the game.

Waupun, Wisconsin
The Defenders take on Trinity Christian on Saturday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m. at Central Wisconsin Christian High School. Cheer them on and join fellow alums in the Alumni Hospitality Room.

For those of you online, you may send any news you wish to share with fellow alumni to voice@dordt.edu.

Audrey (Bush, '72) Starrett is the ALPS (Alternative Learning Program for Students) teacher at Hope Protestant Christian School in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Her husband, Paul, is a fieldman for Ron Miedema Cement Contractors.

Kathleen (Lyon, ex'72) Addink graduated in May from Reformed Bible College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, with a bachelor's degree in religious education. She is currently a leader in the children's and women's ministries in her church, Fairway CRC in Jenison, Michigan.

Annette (Pol, '80) Wensley and her husband, Jeff, live in Calgary, Alberta, with their six children: Stephen (12), Sarah (8), Robert (7), Rachel (5), William (1), and baby, John. Jeff is a senior business analyst for PanCanadian Petroleum Limited, and Annette homeschools three of their children.

Jim De Lange ('81) lives in Taipei, Taiwan, with his wife Ellen Shen. Jim runs a consulting and training business.

Ken and Chris (Du Mez) Geleynse ('81, '81) live in Randolph, Wisconsin, with their four children: Karlyn (15), Andrew (13), Trent (9), and Alex (7). They both work at Randolph Christian School where Ken teaches fifth grade and Chris teaches music to children in grades one through eight.

Randy and Judy (Kleene) Hilbelink ('82, '82) live in Orange City, Iowa, with their three children: Mark (14), Craig (11), and Kerri (6). Randy earned his master's in education from Dordt last May and was honored as educator-of-the-year by the local Lion's Club. He teaches at Orange City Christian School. Judy works at the Wee Dutchmen Preschool.

Mark Link ('82), M.D., works for the New England Medical Center and is currently involved in research of commotio cordis or "concussion of the heart," a phenomenon in which a blow to the chest occurs in a time period of fifteen milliseconds and consequently stops the heart of the victim. Link's research involves using young pigs to determine safer methods and equipment for young athletes, who are most at risk for commotio cordis.

Stephen and **Lorrie (Korevaar, '83)** Whatley live in Bacolod City, the Philippines, and are currently in their sixteenth year of cross-cultural mission work. Lorrie teaches Old Testament studies at the Christian Reformed Bible College, and Stephen teaches theology at Asian Theological Seminary.

Pamela Ruiter-Feenstra ('83) conducted workshops, lectured, and participated in concerts at this summer's session of the Göteborg International Organ Academy in Göteborg, Sweden. The goal of the academy is to identify the links between musicianship and research through various activities.

Zachary and Sandra (Hop) Anderson ('84, '86) recently moved to Goshen, New York, where Zachary is a senior pastor and Sandra teaches part-time in the public and Christian schools.

Russ Rowenhorst ('84) recently received his master's degree in social work from the University of Minnesota, Duluth. He is now working for Carlton County Social Services in Minnesota. Russ and his wife, **Ruth (Van Dyken, '83)** have three daughters: Renae, Rebecca, and Rachel.

Becky (Terpstra, '85) Jongsma and her husband, Ken, have moved to Erie, Pennsylvania, where Ken is beginning study at the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine. Becky and their three daughters, Estelle (4), Dora (3), and Adeline (2), are looking forward to exploring the new area and welcome any visitors.

After a year of Spanish language study in Costa Rica, **Dean and Sharla (Elbers) Broersma ('86, '86)** are in Santo Domingo, the Dominican Republic, working with Christian Reformed World Missions. Dean works with established national churches in development and training. Sharla is home with their two youngest children, Marisa (4) and Brittany (2). Kaitlyn (7) attends the International School in Santo Domingo.

Audrey (Kraayeveld, '87) Brouwer and her husband, Peter, live in Vancouver, Washington, with their daughter Joanne (2) and baby Samuel. Audrey is putting her insurance career on hold to be home with the children. Peter drives truck.

Jaqueline (Smit, '87) Alex works as managing director for the Centre for Community Child Health Research in Vancouver, British Columbia. Her husband, Wendell, has his own architectural design firm. The Alex's live in Vancouver with their one-year-old daughter, Senna.

Jim and Renee (Crandall) Veenstra ('87, '88) live in Cedar Falls, Iowa, where Jim is a manager at TEAM Technologies, an Internet development company. Renee is a flutist and personnel manager for the Waterloo/Cedar Falls Symphony Orchestra. She also teaches flute through the Suzuki School of Music at the University of Northern Iowa. The Veenstra's have three children: Daniel (7), Ian (5), Jenna (2), and one more on the way.

Ron and Karen (Wiersma) De Boer (ex'88, ex'88) live in Kitchener, Ontario. Ron teaches high school English and media studies; Karen is a product developer for an educational supply company. The De Boers have four daughters.

Rick Abma ('89) is the youth pastor at Woodynook Christian Reformed Church in Lacombe, Alberta. Joyce stays home with their three children: Elyse (4); Mikaela (2); and baby Jonah.

Greg De Boer ('89) is a senior design engineer with Pella Windows.

Greg Koldenhoven ('89), M.D., recently completed his orthopedic surgery residency in St. Louis, Missouri. He moved to Seattle, Washington, where he will specialize in surgery of the foot and ankle.

Dale Woudstra ('89) is a partner at EDA, Inc., a mechanical/electrical consulting engineering firm in Sioux Center. His wife Tonia is a vocational rehabilitation counselor.

Bruce and Nicki (Alons) Kuiper ('91, '89) are preparing to teach in China for three years after they complete a year of study.

John and Malita (Schalkwijk) Vander Kruk ('91, ex'92), after orientation training, will take a three-year assignment in Highgate, Jamaica. John will work as a farm manager and Malita with community services. The Vander Kruks have two children, Natascha and Daniel.

Jay and Lydia (Grossmann) Kroese ('91, '93) live in Minnetonka, Minnesota. Jay is an attorney for Cargill, and Lydia is a full-time mom and homemaker.

Gina (Heersink, ex'92) Rutgers lives in Alamosa, Colorado, with her husband, Jim, and three sons: Levi (5); Ethan (3); and Zachary, four months. Gina stays home with her sons and also helps Jim with his farming operation.

Todd and Shelley (Vander Schaaf) Miedema ('93, ex'89) live in Sheldon, Iowa, where Todd has a chiropractic practice. Shelley is home with their two sons, Jade and Taylor.

Travis Van De Berg ('93) graduated from Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine in May. He and his wife, Christine, live in Oelwein, Iowa, where Travis works in a mixed animal practice. Christine is home with their son, Samuel.

Julie (Van Donselaar, '93) Hooyer received her master's of social work degree from the University of Iowa in May of 1998. She and her husband, Curt, live in Norway, Iowa. Curt works as a project manager for a construction firm, and Julie is home with their son.

Harold and Andrea (Leys) Wieringa ('93, '93) live in Orange City, Iowa. Harold is an agronomist, and Andrea teaches first grade at Sioux Center Christian School. Andrea earned her master's in education from Dordt last May.

Brad and Lisa (Van Vuuren) Miedema ('93, '94) live in Lynden, Washington. Brad teaches grades 5-12 instrumental music at Lynden Christian, and Lisa teaches private violin lessons and stays home with their son, Brendan.

Kevin and Elizabeth (Van Noord) van der Wier ('93, '96) live in St. Anns, Ontario. Elizabeth works as a relief counselor in the short-term management program at Bethesda Home, Inc. Kevin manages two feed stores.

Kevin Jordan was recently ordained as a minister in the Christian Reformed Church. He is currently serving Woden CRC in Iowa. His wife, **Lynda (Bruxvoort, '93)** is a homemaker taking care of their daughter, Anna.

Three 1994 alumni graduated from the University of Iowa College of Medicine on May 15, 1998. They were **Terry Ribbens, Kent Rynders** and **Aleatha Reitsma-Mathias**. Rynders received special recognition at the ceremony when he was awarded the Walter J. Beirring-J. Roger Porter Award for outstanding achievement as a freshman in microbiology. Also, Ribbens and Rynders were named to Alpha Omega Alpha, an organization to which only twenty-eight out of the 168 graduates were named.

Paul and Stephanie (Carlson) De Boer ('94, '94) live in Ankeny, Iowa. Paul works for the State of Iowa Department of Health as a disability consultant for the Council on Brain Injury. Stephanie is a customer service representative for Agrifac Acceptance Company.

Julie (Eckart, '94) Houtsma is a resource room teacher at Central Valley Christian School in Visalia, California. Her husband, Kent, works for Son Care Foundation.

Linda Geerts ('94) is beginning her third year of teaching fifth grade at Santiago Christian School in

Judith (Arends, '72) Brueggeman recently received the 1998 Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award. The principal of Harris-Lake Park Schools K-6, Brueggeman is one of four Iowa elementary educators to receive the award. The Iowa Department of Education selects winners based on a confidential process that takes place without application or nomination. Brueggeman was selected for her willingness to develop the skills of others so that they can better benefit the school district. In June of 1999, the 160 recipients from thirty-eight states will gather in Los Angeles to be recognized at a ceremony and receive the \$25,000 financial awards that accompany the title.

Family honors generations of commitment to Christian education

Dave Vander Werf
Director of Planned Giving

On August 14 the family and friends of Jake Hop, Jr. gathered at a luncheon in Rock Rapids to celebrate the announcement of the Jake Hop Endowed Scholarship. This scholarship celebrates the commitment of Jake Hop, Jr. and Jacob Hop, Sr. to Christian education in the Rock Rapids, Iowa, area.

This scholarship is unique in several ways:

- It is held by Dordt College and the proceeds are shared by Western Christian High School and Dordt College Inc.
- It benefits students from the Rock Rapids area who attend Western Christian High School and also students at Dordt College who have a Rock Rapids address.



Lyle Gritters, Dennis Hop, Jean Hop-Madden, and Marion Van Soelen (from Western Christian High School).

- A portion of the funds from this scholarship will benefit a Western Christian High School graduate who intends to participate in the men's basketball program at Dordt College.

Jacob Hop, Sr. and his family were founders of the Rock Rapids Christian School in 1952. Jake Hop, Jr., the youngest of nine Hop siblings, and his wife, Gerdena, sent their two children, Dennis and Jean, to the Rock Rapids Christian School, Western Christian High School, and Dordt College.

Dennis Hop ('77) and his sister Jean Hop-Madden ('84) established this scholarship to honor the commitment of their parents and grandparents to Christian education. Dennis and Jean chose to fund this scholarship through a life insurance policy issued on the lives of their parents which matures on the death of the surviving spouse. It is an exemplary gift because it challenges the supporters of both institutions to think creatively about how they too can make lifetime gifts that benefit Christian education.



Back Row (l to r): Brad Van Kooten ('88) and Lori (Veldhuizen) Van Kooten (ex'90); Craig Stiemsma ('88) and Kristi Stiemsma; Scott Driesen ('88) and Peggy Driesen; Greg Van Soelen ('88) and Kathy (Rus) Van Soelen ('88); Scott Koldenhoven ('88) and Lynn (Vanden Heuvel) Koldenhoven ('88).

Front Row (l to r): Shelley (Vander Berg) Gesink (ex'89) and Kevin Gesink ('88); Rachel (Vander Berg) Jansen (ex'91) and Jim Jansen ('88); Glenn Kooima (ex'88) and Kristi (Groen) Kooima (ex'89).

A group of 1988 graduates renewed acquaintances and reminisced for a week this summer. According to Greg Van Soelen, surveys were sent to seventeen couples a year and a half earlier to try to find a time and place. They settled on Winter Park, Colorado. Eight of the seventeen couples spent time golfing, white water rafting, hiking, and alpine sliding. But the most enjoyable times were socializing and reminiscing, says Van Soelen.

"We all look back on our time at Dordt with great fondness and appreciation that God has given us such good friends," he says. "God has blessed all of us since our time at Dordt, and we look forward to when we can meet again."

the Dominican Republic. She also teaches adult English classes and piano lessons.

Brian Kamps ('94) is a contributor to a recent ICA, Inc. Publication titled *Tending to the Emotional Needs of Teachers and Children*. After graduating from Dordt, Brian taught English in Hungary and is now attending National University to obtain his teaching credentials.

Shivawn (Nydam, '94) Hogan and her husband, Jeff, live in Bellflower, California. Shivawn is in nursing school. Jeff works as a machinist.

Anthony and Sally Jo (Van Stelle) Roorda ('95, '92) live in California where Anthony works as a mechanical engineer for Ride and Show Engineering at Walt Disney World. Sally Jo left her job as an executive secretary to become a full-time mom.

Don and Tammy (Vander Molen) Klynsmas ('94, '95) live in Sioux City, Iowa. Don is a senior accountant with Huisenga, Henjes, Conner, Williams, and Grimsley, LLP. Tammy taught for two years at East Middle School and now runs a day care service in their home. They are members of First Christian Reformed, where Don serves as deacon and Tammy plays piano.

Steve and Kate (De Jong) Drost ('95, '95) live in Surrey, British Columbia. Kate works for El-Rad services as bookkeeper, and Steve works in the customer service department of an electronics retail corporation. They have two sons: Lucas James (1) and baby Christian.

Rod Hoekstra ('95) moved to Seattle,

Washington, where he is working for Seattle Pacific University as a senior systems analyst.

Ted Kamp ('95) graduated cum laude with a doctorate in physical therapy from Creighton University in May of 1998. He now works in rehabilitation in Grangeville, Idaho.

Mark Vande Zande ('95) is the intern/associate pastor at Heritage Christian Reformed Church in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Corlin and Rachel (Visser) Fiekema ('96, ex'98) live in Sioux Center, where Corlin is employed at First National Bank, and Rachel is an RN at the local hospital.

Justin and Sheri (Kuiper) Ver Steeg ('98, ex'98) live in Aurora, Colorado. Justin is a community liaison working with people with disabilities. Sheri is a nurse at the Aurora Medical Center.

In Memoriam

Gracia (Hoogland, '70) DeBoef passed away May 20, 1998, after struggling with cancer for one and a half years. Gracia taught school in Edgerton, Minnesota; Sioux Center, Iowa; and Pella, Iowa. She was also activity director at Hilltop Manor for five years. Gracia is survived by her parents; her husband, **Jim** ('69); her three children, **Julie** ('91) Beyer (Lance), **Brent** ('95, Sharla), and **Andrea**; and one grandson, Jay Beyer.

Simon Toryem ('85) passed away November 14, 1996. His wife, Comfort, lives with their six children in Nigeria.

Marriages

Jim De Lange ('81) and Ellen Shen, 5/23/98
Greg De Boer ('89) and Kathleen Stangle, 6/6/98
Dale Woudstra ('89) and Tonia Bach, 7/18/98
Lynn Van Heyst ('91) and James Gutzwiller
Patricia De Nooy ('91) and Christian Johnson, 9/12/98
Arnold Rumph ('92) and Teresa Spoelstra, 8/16/97
Scott McCarty and Lanelle Postma ('93), 4/4/98
Kent Houtsma and Julie Eckart ('94), 4/4/98
Shivawn Nydam ('94) and Jeff Hogan, 8/1/98
Mark Vande Zande ('95) and Kimberly Volkers, 6/16/98

Faith Rylaarsdam ('96) and Rick Rietveld, 6/27/98
Lee Van't Zelfde and Eri Nakajima ('96), 8/17/98
Curt Bollinger and Paula Zwart ('96), 8/1/98
Corlin Fiekema ('96) and Rachel Visser (ex'98), 6/13/98

Sonya Jongsma ('97) and Daniel Knauss, 6/27/98
Mandy Langeland ('97) and Jason Van Hofwegen, 4/17/98

Barry Braun and Jennifer Los ('97), 7/11/98
Kevin DeHaan and Laura Vander Wier (ex.'97)
Eric Netjes ('97) and **Jamie Mouw** ('98), 6/27/98

Jeff and Annette (Pol, '80) Wensley, John Philip, 5/12/98
Murray and Joyce (Doppenberg) Hedlin ('80, '81), Christopher Alan Todd, 5/11/98
Craig and Christine (De Cook, ex'82) Buma, Michael Craig, 5/14/98
Jim and Lynell (Jelgerhuis, '82) Dykstra, Zachary James, 4/17/98
Ed and Denise (Van Gorp) Blok (ex'83, '82), Megan Leigh, 3/2/98
Jim and Ann (Voogd, '83) Hill, Nathaniel Sherman, 4/2/98
Adrie and Marla (Scholten, '84) Groeneweg, Trenton Walt, 2/24/98
Dave and Rebecca (Muether) Vander Werf ('84, '88), Abigail Lee, 8/31/98
David and Lisa Westra ('85), John David, 8/18/96; Allison Nicole, 5/12/98
Gale and Catherine (Slenk) Tien ('85, '85), David Nicholas, 12/15/97
Mark and Pam (Rowenhorst) Ten Napel ('85, '91), Joseph Mark, 2/19/98
Nate and Kristi Vander Stelt ('86), Lydia Ruth, 9/1/98
John and Marsha (Weg, '86) Bormann, Rebecca Leigh, 6/5/98
Mark and Elsie (de Jong) Bousema ('86, '87), Katie Rena, 2/20/98
Loren and Nancy Gritters ('87), Heidi Ranae, 9/4/9
Peter and Audrey (Kraayeveld, '87) Brouwer, Samuel Peter, 7/13/98
Greg and Darcy (Van Maanen) Horstman ('87, ex.'87), Andrea Jan, 4/18/98
Kevin and Joan (Noordhof, '87) Pasveer, Matthew Hendrick, 1/5/98
Mike and Rachelle (Hoekstra) Apol ('87, '89), Elayne Rose, 5/29/98
Scott and Peggy Driesen ('88), Anika Beth, 4/26/98
Steven and Brenda (Klyn, '88) Spoelstra, Lisa Marie, 1/11/98
Tim and Patti (Vant Hoff) Van Denend ('88, '88), Dylan Timothy, 5/8/98
Kevin and Shelly (Vander Berg) Gesink ('88, ex'89), Ben Henry, 8/23/98
Ron and Karen (Wiersma) De Boer (ex'88, ex'88), Tara Jillian, 5/13/98
Dan and Amy (Nibbelink) Vander Pol ('88, '93), Nathan Daniel, 5/11/98
Kevin and Sue (Anema, '89) Harthoorn, Landon John, 4/10/98
Scott and Brenda (Buitenbos, '89) Mallery, Grant, 4/10/98
Brian and Geselle (Mulder, ex.'89) Steenhoek, Jori Elizabeth, 4/23/98
Rick and Joyce Abma ('89), Jonah Richard, 2/9/98
Alan and Jolene (Ver Steeg) Bandstra ('89, '92), Erin Joy, 7/12/98
Carl and Kathy (Powell) Fictorie ('89, '90), Katherine Genevieve, 6/19/98
Mark and Lor (De Haan, ex'90) Veldhuizen, Alex Jeremiah, born 6/13/98, adopted 7/8/98
Kris and Gwen (Rens) Marra ('90, '90), Dustin William, 12/19/97
Harwin and Diane (Rozeboom, ex'90) Te Slaa, Jamison Ross, 2/10/98
John and Amy (Rus) Vander Haag ('90, '90), Olivia Jean, 6/5/98
Scott and Michelle (Vander Wal, ex'90) Haaksma, James Henry, 5/31/98
Paul and Laurie (Domingo) Vande Kamp ('90, '91), Kailey Skye, 9/21/98
Jeff and Janine (Buffinga) Burgsma ('91, ex'91), Maggie Janine, 2/13/98
Doug and Sonya (De Jager, '91) Tripple, Sydney Madison, 5/4/98
Bruce and Megan Disselkoe ('91), Ellie Margaret, 4/21/98
Ryan and Cindy Gravenhof ('91), MaKayla Leigh, 7/22/98
Scott and Jodi (Talsma) Hulstein ('91, ex'91), Tristan John, 5/4/98
Eric and Dawn (Nykamp) Rynders ('91, '91), Henry William, 12/24/97
Matt and Carol (Van Norden, ex'91) Schulte, Austin Matthew, 4/8/98
Steve and Angela (Hegeman) Zwart ('91, '91), Aaron Steven, 8/31/98
Jay and Lydia (Grossmann) Kroese ('91, '93), Caleb Henry, 3/8/98
Jim and Gina (Heersink, ex.'92) Rutgers, Zachary Scott, 7/11/98
Bob and Mary (Smith) Pollema ('92, '91), Noah Lee, 8/23/98
Ed and Debra (Bakker) Minderhoud ('92, '92), Jesse Nicholas, 6/19/98
Glen and Jill (Altena) Nydam ('92, '92), Kendra Danae, 6/19/98
Aubrey and Heather (Tiesma, ex'92) Postma, Aaron Samuel and Tyler Isaiah, 3/12/98
John and Lynn (Mabrey) Howerzyl ('92, '93), Graham Thomas, 7/31/98
Eric and Sharla (Van Hofwegen) Ellens ('92, ex'94), Paige Renae, 3/20/98
Art and Leslie (Hellinga) Tel ('92, '95), Theo Alexander, 5/6/98
Anthony and Sally Jo (Van Stelle) Roorda ('95, '92), Mark Anthony, 1/21/98
Todd and Shelley (Vander Schaaf) Miedema ('93, ex'89), Taylor Brennan, 4/27/98
Steve and Kim (Bomgaars, '93) De Bruin, Greg Daniel, 4/27/98
Tim and Maria (Reinders) De Jong ('93, '93), Allison Mae, 7/21/98
Mike and Bonnie (De Vries) Vander Berg ('93, '93), Dylan Matthew, 5/18/98
Curt and Julie (Van Donselaar, '93) Hooyer, Holden Reese, 6/2/98
Darin and Gloria (Bolkema) Veltkamp ('93, '93), Codey Dilan, 1/22/98
Harold and Andrea (Leys) Wieringa ('93, '93), Kendra Lynn, 1/2/98
Jeff and Stephanie (Bleyenburgh) Zylstra ('93, '94), Jaedyn Koren, 6/28/98
Brad and Lisa (Van Vuuren) Miedema ('93, '94) Brendan Jesse, 5/15/97
Brad and Karie (Dekkers) Weidenaar ('94, '93), Elliot James, 7/21/98
Kent and Laura (Kruid) Altena ('94, ex'94), Brooke Danielle and Amanda Grace, 7/14/98
Terry and Julie (Vander Stelt) Ribbens ('94, '94), Trenton Gregory, 2/27/98
Paul and Stephanie (Carlson) De Boer ('94, '94), Heidi Grace, 4/5/98
Steve and Krista (Siepman) Brandsma ('94, '95), Caleb Peter, 5/5/98
Don and Tammy (Vander Molen) Klynsmas ('94, '95), Dylan Jay, 6/16/98
Dave and Carisa (De Jong) Krikke ('94, ex'96), Shane Levi, 9/10/98
Patrick and Julie (Vander Ploeg) Krommendyk ('94, ex'96), Allyson Lea, 4/26/98
Brian and Jennifer (Gesch) Huseland ('95, '93), Alice Joy, 4/7/98
Nolan and Karla (Marcus) Vos (ex'95, ex.'94), Natalie Jo, 8/9/98
Steve and Kate (De Jong) Drost ('95, '95), Christian Edward, 5/20/98
Jacco and Cynthia (Wielinga) De Vin ('95, '95), Mika Eduard, 7/21/98
Scott and Kerry (Bussema) Oolman ('95, '95), Sean Kenneth, 7/28/98
Peter and Vivienne (Tuma, ex.'95) Mudima, Andrew Nehemiah Nayenga, 10/6/97
Tony and Corrina (Vander Woude) Louters ('96, '95), Alexis Wilhemina, 6/17/98
Paul Loomans ('96), Alicia Sue, 8/29/98
Aaron and Jodi Zylstra ('96), Nicholas James, 3/30/98

CORRESPONDENCE CLIPPING

We at Dordt College are interested in hearing how you are doing and what kinds of events are happening in your life. Please fill out the coupon below and mail to: Alumni Association, Dordt College, 498 4th Ave. NE, Sioux Center, Iowa 51250

☐ Marriage ☐ Future Defenders ☐ Address Change
☐ In Memoriam ☐ Alumni News

Name _____

Year _____ Address _____

News Items/Suggestion(s) _____

The Defender Gold Club is now in its third year of existence. The Gold Club raises money to purchase equipment for the athletic department that is not covered by the general budget of the college. In the past the Gold Club has provided the funds to purchase a soccer scoreboard and new score tables for the gymnasium. Fund-raising activities include selling polo shirts and wind shirts and sponsoring a local high school all-star basketball game. This year the Gold Club hopes to host a summer golf tournament. Memberships are \$40 for a polo shirt and \$50 for a wind shirt. To become a member enclose a check with the form below.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

\$40 Polo shirt ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ XXL

\$50 Wind shirt ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ XXL ☐ XXXL

Enclose \$4 for postage & handling

The *Voice*, an outreach of Dordt College, is sent to you as alumni and friends of Christian higher education. The *Voice* is published four times per year to share information about the programs, activities, and needs of the college. Send address corrections and correspondence to VOICE, Dordt College, 498 Fourth Ave. NE, Sioux Center, IA 51250-1697.

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VOICE

DORDT COLLEGE

FALL 1998
VOLUME 44 NUMBER 1

EVENTS

Music

All events are held in the B.J. Haan Auditorium

Nov. 14	7:30 p.m.	Recital: Kevin Soodsma, organ Amie (Bloemendaal) Smit, violin
Nov. 18	1:30 p.m.	NISO Children's Concert
	7:30 p.m.	NISO Fall Concert
Nov. 20	3:00 p.m.	Music Dept. Recital
Dec. 4	3:00 p.m.	Music Dept. Recital
	7:30 p.m.	Instrumental Ensemble Concert
Dec. 6	2:30 p.m.	Choral Concert
Dec. 9	7:30 p.m.	Concert Band/ Chamber Orchestra Concert
Jan. 15	7:30 p.m.	Concert Choir Tour Concert

Campus Activities

Nov. 8	9:00 p.m.	Student Poetry Reading
Nov. 9, 10, 11		Hug-a-Linguist Days
Nov. 13	7:30 p.m.	Travelogue: "Eastern Europe-A New Age Dawning"
Nov. 14		After Basketball Bash
Nov. 20		Campus Visit Day
	7 & 9 p.m.	Film: "The Apostle"
Nov. 21	7 & 9 p.m.	Film: "The Apostle"
Dec. 4		Campus Visit Day

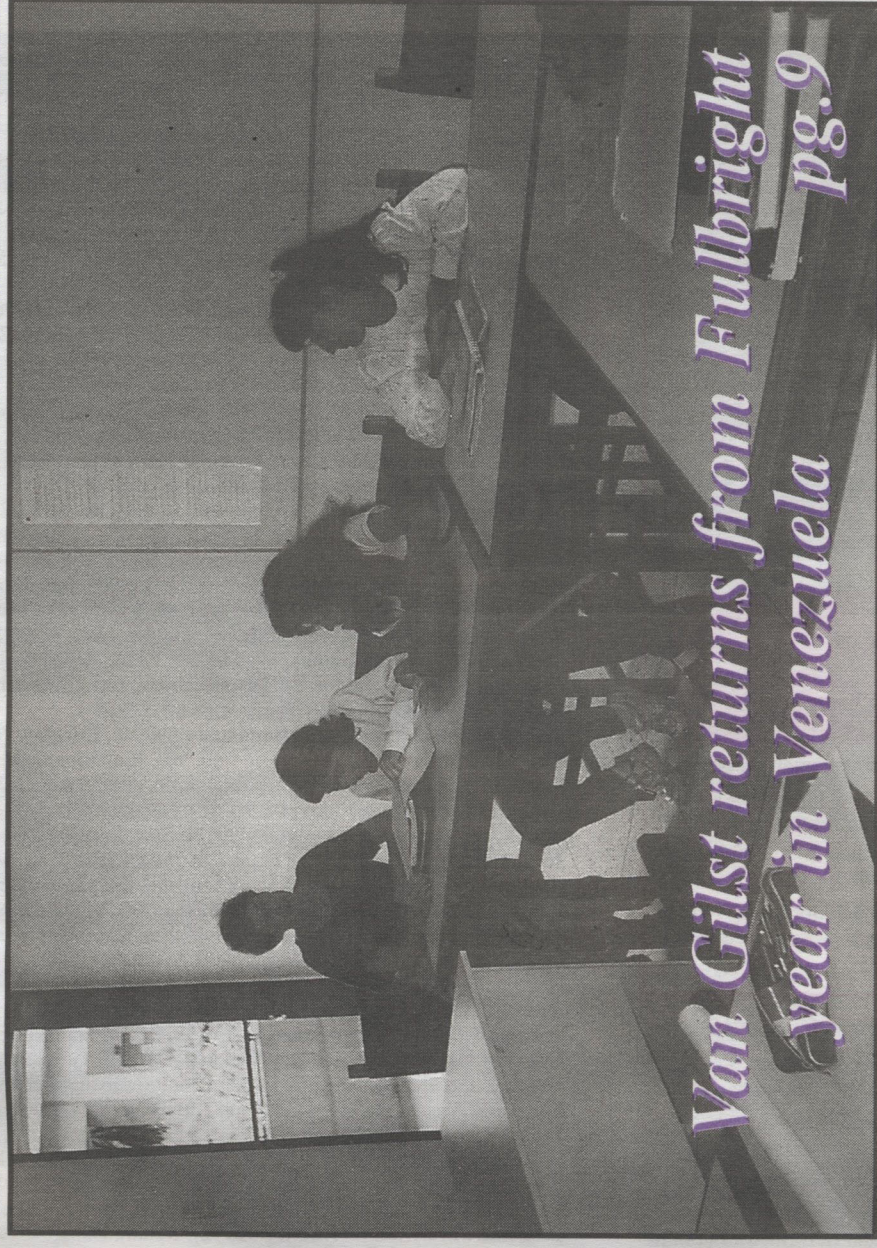
Sports

All games listed are home games, except tournaments.

Nov. 12	7:30 p.m.	MBB vs. Midland Lutheran
Nov. 13, 14		WVB, SDIC Tournament
Nov. 18	7:00 p.m.	WBB vs. Briar Cliff
Nov. 20	7:00 p.m.	WBB vs. College of St. Mary
Nov. 20, 21		MBB, Sterling Classic
		WVB, Regional Tournament
Nov. 21		CC, NAIA National Meet
Nov. 27, 28		WBB, Central Tournament
Dec. 4	7:30 p.m.	MBB vs. Concordia
Dec. 5	3:00 p.m.	MBB vs. Northwestern (Minn.)
Dec. 9	7:30 p.m.	MBB vs. Northwestern
Dec. 10	7:00 p.m.	WBB vs. Northwestern
Dec. 12	7:30 p.m.	MBB vs. Central
Jan. 2	2:00 p.m.	WBB vs. Dana
	7:30 p.m.	MBB vs. Buena Vista
Jan. 8	6:00 p.m.	WBB vs. Black Hills State
	8:00 p.m.	MBB vs. Black Hills State
Jan. 9	6:00 p.m.	WBB vs. South Dakota Tech
	8:00 p.m.	MBB vs. South Dakota Tech
		National NAIA Meet, Tulsa

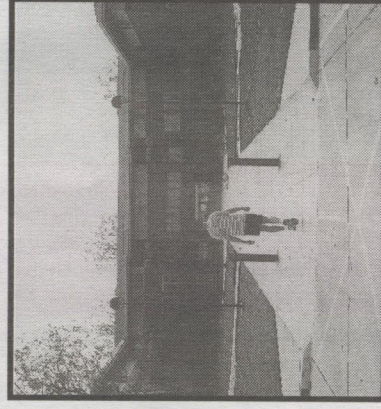
Theater

Nov. 13		High School Improv Festival
Nov. 21	7:30 p.m.	The Nutcracker (Te Paske Theatre)



**Internships
give students
a taste of their
future career**

page 1



**New residence
hall opens for
240 students**

page 3

**Dordt Press
releases book of
poetry by alum
Laura Apol**

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